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AND China Overland Trade Report.

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EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The number of plague cases reported in the Colony since the 1st January now amounts to 67.

Another case of bubonic plague has occurred at Manila.

A new Peking University is to be built from the designs of an European architect, to contain about 1,400 rooms and cost Tls. 500,000.

The Tsar has instructed M. Witte, Minister of Finance, to re-arrange the Customs régime in the Russian dominions in the Far East.

Mr. Wyatt, the delegate of the Navy League, is on his way to Japan via Canada, and after spending a month in that country, will proceed to China, Hongkong, Australia, and New Zealand.

The French cruiser *Montcalm*, which recently left Toulon for the Far East, received orders to call at Jibuti in order to be present during the coming festivities in connection with the opening of the railway.

The New American Legation at Peking is to be built from plans prepared by Mr. Nealy, an architect who has been specially sent out to Peking by the authorities at Washington. Contracts for bricks and lime have been given out.

A projected rising in the vicinity and the port of Kiukiang, Kiangsi province, has been discovered, the ramifications of which extend to quite a number of cities in the province. The mandarins have been instructed by the Viceroy to prevent the import and export of fire-arms and ammunition wherever possible.

The *Manila Cablenews* says that the Mucking Company, which has the Government contract for raising the Spanish hulks, dotting the harbour thereabout, has begun operations in earnest and for a week past has had a large number of natives employed. The *Maria Christina*, the flagship of Admiral Montojo, is the vessel they are at present devoting their attention to.

The *Cablenews* of Manila says that the settlement of the prize-money due the American sailors for their victory in the battle of Manila Bay has just been arrived at by the Navy Department. Computed upon the basis of the vessels captured and destroyed, the amount is very large. The share of Admiral Dewey alone is almost one million dollars.

Our Shanghai correspondent telegraphed on the 12th inst. that "The Tantai, under the orders of the Viceroy, has issued a proclamation absolutely forbidding the export of rice by natives and foreigners alike." The following paragraph from a northern contemporary affords some explanation of the proclamation:—"The recent rapid rise in Shanghai of the price of rice has again been receiving the attention of the provincial authorities at Soochow and Nanking, and the local mandarins have accordingly been warned that this is due to the unauthorized export from the port of the commodity. Several persons high in rank are suspected of 'rigging' the market through their agents who then export the food stuff, thus bringing huge sums into the pockets of their principals. In view of this the local mandarins have been ordered to issue proclamations prohibiting the export of rice on pain of confiscation."

The *Universal Gazette* states that the Peking Grand Council lately wired to Viceroy Chang that their Majesties eagerly await him to come to Peking for audience.

The *Singapore Free Press* mentions that it is understood the Russian Squadron at present visiting the Persian Gulf will coal at Puloweh and then go direct to Hongkong, not visiting Singapore at all.

A London commercial paper notes that "Our ally—Japan—has just placed a contract with the American Steel and Wire Company for over 27 miles of wire which is needed to construct the over-head system of a trolley road in Tokyo."

The statement that the Russo-Chinese Bank has been commissioned to place a loan of 40,000,000 francs in Paris for the extension of its operations is semi-officially denied. What, of course, has got confused is the loan for the Chengting-Taiyuan railway, the contract for which was signed by the bank at Shanghai, and is for the sum stated.

The *Japan Mail* referring to a theory propounded in the *Debats* that Japan is to absorb China, observes that in spite of the attractions of such a theory from the purely speculative point of view, belief in its truth can scarcely survive the absence of any evidences of consummation. The peaceful conquest of China certainly does seem to be going on slowly, but at present there are no appearances that any large part of the fruits of victory will fall to Japan's share. It is a campaign in which many holds the field. There are occasional displays of the mailed fist, but their results are fitful and the condemnation they provoke soon obscures their results. Concessions are the great weapons: mining concessions, railway concessions, navigation concessions, and so on, in all of which Japan has a very small part, her available capital not being sufficient even for the purposes of her home development.

Judging from information that has reached Shanghai, the construction of the Peking Syndicate Railways in Honan is going on rapidly. In Taokou, says the *Shanghai Times*, a store and buildings for the Europeans engaged on the work have been erected upon English plans. Nearly all of the road bridges and drains in the first and second sections have already been finished. The track has been laid as far as Li Yuan Tou, a village about 5 miles east of Wei Hui Fa, through which place the Emperor passed in December, 1901, en route to Peking from Sianfu. Telegraph lines have been built along the entire road, 85 miles. The superintendent of telegraphs is C. K. Chow, who was formerly a secretary in the Imperial Chinese Railway Administration, and who has the added advantage of having taken honours in the department of electricity, Yale University. He has just finished installing the telegraph instruments. The construction of the road, it is confidently believed, will be finished within 18 months. Since the beginning of the construction of the railways, the price of land in Taokou and Wei-huifu has risen enormously. One of the Chinese staff of Pearson's bought about 20 mow of land near the Tawang temple at Taokou last autumn at the rate of only sixteen thousand cash per mow, through the influence of a Ti-pao named Chang; the price has now run up to 120 taels per mow.

BIRTHS.

On the 19th February, at Foochow, the wife of CARL ROSEMAN, Superintendent, Germania Saw Mills, of a daughter.

On the 26th February, at Ipoh, Perak, the wife of H. A. HABEKOST, of Howarth Erskine, Ltd., of a daughter.

On the 27th February, at Tientsin, the wife of M. F. HAY, I.M. Customs, of a daughter.

On the 28th February, at No. 118, Kitano Cho, Kobe, the wife of F. G. SALE, of a son.

On the 1st March, at No. 42, Selegie Road, Singapore, the wife of H. PINTO, of a daughter.

On the 4th March, at 45, Bubbling Well Road, Shanghai, the wife of ROWLAND H. B. WADE, of a daughter.

At "St. Enogat," Conduit Road, the wife of Dr. G. M. HARTON, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 28th February, at the Presbyterian Church, Singapore, ROBERT SCOTLAR to THERESA A. R. HADEBUP, daughter of ERNST HADEBUP, of Singapore and Copenhagen.

On the 2d March, at Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, JOHN WILFRED BIRD, Surgeon, R.N., H.M.S. *Bramble*, to MARJORIE BYRNE, of Shanghai.

DEATH.

On the 6th March, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, GEORGE HENRY JONES.

Hongkong Weekly Press

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ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 6th February arrived, per M.M. steamer *Sydney*, on the 12th March (24 days); the English mail of the 13th February arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Chusan*, on the 13th March (28 days); and the U. S. mail of the 13th February arrived, per P.M. steamer *China*, on the 13th March (28 days).

RUSSIA, JAPAN AND COREA.

(Daily Press, 9th March.)

The evidence afforded by recent news from Corea of the keenness of the struggle between the Japanese and the Russians for ascendancy serves to show that the "Land of Morning Calm" must still be regarded as the storm-centre of the Far East. Following closely on the trouble over the circulation of Japanese banknotes, there comes the information that the Russian Representative at Seoul has asked the Throne to grant to Baron Guisburg a concession for building a railway from the capital to Wiju. As we have already mentioned in our columns, this concession was granted some years ago to a French syndicate, but as they failed to commence the work within the period fixed, the charter lapsed. Corea decided to grant no more concessions to foreigners, and the Government started to build the line as a *Saite* enterprise. Want of funds caused a suspension of work, and Japan having obtained a concession for the construction of a railway from Seoul to Fusan, it appears that the Russian Representative claimed equal privileges for Russian subjects under the most-favoured-nation clause of the treaties, his alternative being that if the concession is not granted, then at any rate Corea should borrow the money from Russia wherewith to complete its construction. Russia, as is very well known, has not more capital to spare than she needs within her own dominions. The Siberian line has been laid chiefly with French capital, and it is hardly necessary to say that such an offer to Corea as that mentioned above must neither be regarded as philanthropic nor even as a commercial speculation, but must be viewed in a purely political light. According to the *Japan Mail*, the Seoul-Wiju road has no commercial prospects, and its construction as a money-making enterprise would never be contemplated for an instant. It excites no surprise therefore to learn that the Korean Government has refused to grant the concession, but it is interesting to learn that the Japanese had been hoping to get this concession as compensation for the recent banknote trouble. The Press of Japan credits the Russians simply with a desire to forestall Japan's application. It is at once apparent that with such a concession as this the struggle in Corea between Russia and Japan would soon reach a climax. Seeing that it is declared in Japan that the road must for many years to come be a purely strategical road, information will be awaited with interest as to whether Japan will now make the application which it was Russia's aim to forestall. Evidently as keen interest is taken in St. Petersburg as in Tokyo in the development of events in Corea. The *Novoe Vremya*, the leading St. Petersburg journal, is constantly furnishing its readers with news from Seoul of Japanese aggression, while correspondents of the Japanese Press chronicle every political and commercial move by the Russians. Only six weeks ago the St. Petersburg journal published a lengthy article on the "dangerous influx" of Japanese settlers into Corea. The writer, who resides at Seoul, mentions a report from the Kionsan provinces to the effect that the Japanese are buying—absolutely on their own authority—houses and fields from the Koreans, and declares that it is not prohibited all the Korean land will drift into the possession of the former. He points out that these provinces are not open to foreigners, and the acquisition by the latter of landed estate

therein is strictly prohibited. But these are not the only places, he says, where the Japanese have penetrated "unceremoniously ignoring any lawful demands put forward by the Koreans." Only an energetic protest on the part of the Koreans, he says, can "retard the unhappy consummation" of the country losing its independence and being entirely at the mercy of the Japanese. From the Russian point of view, it is held that the immigration of the Japanese into the interior, the establishment of post offices at points between Seoul and Chemulpo, the organisation of police forces in those places "where the Japanese have no right to settle," and many other actions are quite contrary to the treaty engagements of Japan. True it is that in the treaty made in 1876 between Japan and Corea, only three ports were specifically opened to trade, yet, as bearing on the question of the right of the Japanese—expressly or tacitly acquired—to do what they are alleged to have done, there is a curious want of preciseness in the wording of the final clause of the Protocol signed in 1898 by Baron Rosen on behalf of Russia and Baron Nishi on behalf of Japan. It reads: "In view of the wide development taken by 'the commercial and industrial enterprise' of Japan in Corea, as well as the large 'number of Japanese subjects residing in 'that country, the Russian Government will 'not hinder in any way the development 'of commercial and industrial relations 'between Japan and Corea." Whether this clause would be held to cover the alleged misdeeds of Japanese we do not know, but this much seems obvious that Corea of herself is incapable of imposing her will on either of the two contending parties. Japan appears to be doing in Corea pretty much what Russia is doing on a very much larger scale in Manchuria.

CHINA AND HER CURRENCY.

(Daily Press, 10th March.)

Further particulars are now to hand of the message which President Roosevelt at the end of January sent to Congress with reference to the currency and coinage of Mexico and China. The message which was accompanied by papers dealing with the subject from the representatives of the countries named recommended that the executive be given sufficient powers to lend the support of the United States, in such a manner and to such a degree as the President might deem expedient, to the purposes of the two Governments. The message was accompanied by a report from Mr. HAY, Secretary of State, which pointed out that the notes do not ask the United States to modify its monetary system, and the contemplation of any movement for the restoration of international bimetalism is distinctly disavowed. The opinion, however, is expressed by the representatives of China and Mexico that a consultation between the United States and the European Powers having dependencies in the East, and independent countries in which silver is in general use, may result in the adoption of a monetary system preventing the great fluctuations in the exchange which now occur in the trade of silver-using countries. If such a result, the communication continues, can be achieved—and it is pointed out that at least a partial solution has been proposed in the United States by the Bill which has recently been passed with regard to the Philippines—great benefits would result to the trade of the world, as the access of the products of manufacturing nations to the markets of

China and other silver-using countries would thereby be rendered easier. It is further pointed out that the consideration of the subject might have an important bearing also on the payment of the indemnity, enabling China to put her monetary system on a basis which would render it possible for her to meet all the payments in a manner satisfactory to all parties. In furtherance of its efforts to bring about an adjustment of the ratio between gold and silver currency in the Far East and in silver-using countries, the United States Government will submit to Congress a proposal for the appointment of a commission of three financial experts to represent the United States in an international monetary conference on lines indicated by Mexico and China, or in any direct consultations with other Powers, or, in fact, in any kind international exchange of views which promises to be successful. The commission will not have power to commit the United States to any change in its currency system. Its decisions will, in fact, be only *ad referendum*. No doubt the other nations will readily join in the proposed conference.

RECEIPT STAMPS FOR CHIHLI.

(Daily Press, 10th March.)

We note from a Northern contemporary that YUAN SHI-KAI, the energetic Viceroy of Chihli, has conceived a new plan for raising revenue in his province. He has taken a leaf out of the Western book and resolved to make the people of Chihli use receipt stamps. This scheme was duly submitted to the Throne, and received the Imperial sanction, the first day of the 4th Moon (27th April) being fixed for the new law to come into force in the Prefecture of Shuntien-fu (Peking). The stamps are to be of different colours and values and will be used on agreements of all kinds, on bills of sale, receipts and orders, &c. It is also provided that after the above date all documents which do not bear the required stamp will be invalid and persons neglecting to comply with the provisions of the new law will be fined. The Viceroy of Chihli is to be congratulated on this new departure, if it is a really honest attempt to collect revenue in a manner not oppressive to the people. If he will at the same time take steps to put down the blackmailing and corruption that goes on in the judicial courts the people will not grumble at having to pay a stamp duty, provided the rates are not unduly heavy. The only trouble is, whether he will be able to enforce it. The Cantonese at any rate are adepts in evading this duty in Hongkong. Among themselves they rarely, we understand, use receipt stamps, and in many other matters dispense with them, though they are gradually recognising the importance of doing so, having in many instances discovered the danger of neglecting to stamp agreements, &c. There will be a good deal of objection raised to the stamp duty in Chihli at first, and the Pekingese will no doubt be prepared—like the Cantonese—to take the risk of invalidating their acts rather than buy stamps, and there will no doubt be plenty of work for the officials in charge of the new department, if the law is to be made effective. We shall watch the experiment with some interest, because it is an effort to introduce into the metropolitan province a new and Western custom quite alien to Chinese practice. If it should succeed in Chihli, the stamp duty will gradually be adopted throughout the eighteen provinces of the Empire. The

Chinese authorities are anxious to discover new methods of augmenting the revenue, and if the difficulties to be surmounted are not too great will overlook their origin. It is to be hoped, however, that they will not endeavour to graft upon the stamp duty some ingenious device for diverting the major portion of the revenue thus produced into the pockets of the mandarin.

CHINESE IMMIGRATION IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

(Daily Press, 12th March.)

The conflict between British Columbia and the Dominion Government with respect to the restriction of Asiatic immigration was still unsettled when the latest American mails were despatched. So far as the agitation against Chinese immigration is concerned, the Dominion Government has at last given a promise to the Columbian Legislature which is acceptable to them if it is not completely satisfying. And there is much jubilation over the result not only in Columbia, but on the Pacific coastline of the United States, where it is complained that British Columbia has been used by the Chinese heretofore as a convenient gateway through the wall of exclusion the States have raised against them. The past policy of British Columbia towards Asiatic immigration has been one of discouragement rather than absolute exclusion, because (so it is now explained) the latter policy runs counter to that of the Imperial Government, which has controlled the conduct of the Dominion Government at Ottawa. We are unaware of any pronouncement in this sense by the Imperial Government so far as Chinese are concerned, but with respect to the Japanese the Imperial Government has on more than one occasion objected to prohibitive legislation by the Colonies against the immigration of Japanese. In its legislative enactments British Columbia has drawn no distinction between the two Asiatic races, and the Premier of Canada has had occasion recently to again inform the provincial Government that as long as they insist on connecting Japanese with Chinese in immigration legislation, just so long would the Federal authorities, for Imperial reasons, insist on disallowing those Bills. At the same time Sir WILFRED LAURIER has suggested to the Premier of British Columbia that no Federal objection would be taken to a provincial enactment restricting the immigration of Chinese, providing that Japanese immigration was not prohibited by the same Act. This marks a considerable concession to the opponents of Asiatic immigration in the province. Originally the poll tax levied on Asiatic immigrants into British Columbia was \$50. Twelve or eighteen months ago it was raised to \$100 in deference to the demands of white labour in the province. There was a strong desire prevalent to raise it still higher, making it a prohibitive poll tax which would operate as effectively as the exclusion laws in the United States. The Dominion Government refused consent, but the anti-Chinese agitation being so intense a Royal Commission was appointed to enquire into and report upon the causes. This Commission has reported that the influx of Chinese into the province operates against its progress and is degrading in its influence on the labour interest, and as a result of this report it appears that the Dominion Government is prepared to confirm a still higher tax than is now imposed. "The next move," the papers tell us, "will doubtless be to establish a tax that will exclude all Chinese, including those who are subjects

of the Crown in the British Colony of Hongkong." When that comes about, if it ever does, the Imperial Government will doubtless take up a similar attitude to what it is taking up now with regard to the immigration of Japanese.

ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

(Daily Press, 11th March.)

What was the true inwardness of our alliance with Germany to force on Venezuela a settlement of its long outstanding accounts will perhaps never be known, and certainly will not be revealed for a generation. Venezuela was, it is perfectly well known, for the last fifty years hopelessly bankrupt, and it might have been fairly presumed that those who advanced money to her in her hopeless condition did so with a full knowledge of what they were doing, as well as of their ulterior responsibility for any bad use she might make of their ill-timed generosity. At best the operation of going to war partook very much of the nature of throwing good money after bad, while any alliance with Germany after the repeated proofs of ill-faith afforded in her recent conduct, not only towards Great Britain, but towards other States with whom she has had diplomatic relations, is objectionable to every British subject wherever he be, at home or in the colonies. It cannot be supposed that the British Government, or that department of it represented in the Foreign Office, was at all ignorant of this position of affairs. Whatever be our political views, the Cabinet of Mr. BALFOUR has at least earned, by the ability with which it has forecast the opinions of the public, its title to the possession of common sense; and it became increasingly evident that neither could we on the one hand permit Germany, by refusing to urge our own claims, to establish a preferential claim, nor on the other could we cordially support her in her ulterior aims. We are apt to forget that we are at least as much responsible for the so-called MONROE Doctrine as the United States; the fundamental principle of the "Doctrine" is to assure to America generally the right of administering her own affairs; and the necessity of taking this view was forced upon us by the avowed intention of the Holy Alliance to compel by force of arms the revolted provinces of Spain to return to their allegiance. Under the government of GEORGE CANNING material aid was given to the insurgent colonies, and the British Government was committed to the doctrine which came eventually to be generally accepted in Europe. Of late, partly no doubt inspired by the growing influence of the United States in European politics, Germany has been chafing about her exclusion from South American politics, where an opening seems to her to be afforded for colonisation; and there was apparent the fear lest she should be tempted to take advantage of the Venezuelan imbroglio to force the position. Such a course would have led to unpleasant complications with the United States, who were bound to oppose it by every means in their power. With such a proposal the British people equally with the British Government could have no sympathy, and it was evidently this apprehension—none the less real that it never found expression in words—that actuated the general distaste of the supposed policy of the Government. Curiously enough, it was apparently left to Lord ROSEBERY to see the self-evident spring of the governmental policy—at least, he was the first to point out that doubtlessly the

Government had been acting in conjunction with that at Washington. That no more than our own did the United States wish to have any serious misunderstanding with Germany, which would commit the President to any premature declaration of policy, may be accepted as self-evident. Germany of late has been particularly maladroit in her political relations with the United States, and any little difference between the two was in danger of being fanned into a flame great out of all proportion to its intrinsic importance. Nor does England as a nation desire any misunderstanding with Germany which would inflame the present feeling of soreness. Did Germany only look upon affairs with greater calmness than she has recently permitted to herself, she would see that no possible end could be subserved by any feeling of coolness between the two countries. Great Britain has positively no desire, as she has no object to gain therefrom, for any encroachment on German territory or German influence. Far more is it her interest to remain on good terms with her neighbours all round. Time was when it was her interest to preserve the autonomy of Germany, and when such was the case she came forward with no grudging hand; nor did she seek to make terms for her help such as Germany should feel herself humiliated in accepting. Affairs on the continent of Europe are at the moment not so pleasant for the future of Germany that that Power can wisely afford to render herself distasteful to the nation which is more closely related to her by blood than any of the other Powers; and it may well be that Germany may yet be thankful to England for her good offices.

MASONIC HALL READING-ROOM.

The new reading-room and library attached to the Freemasons' Hall in Zetland Street was formally opened on Thursday afternoon by Deputy District Grand Master E. C. Ray, in the absence of District Grand Master Sir C. P. Chater, C.M.G. Having explained the objects which led to the formation of the reading-room and library, details that have amongst others already appeared in these columns, Wor. Bro. Ray said the room was granted free of rent by the Zetland Lodge, who were the owners, and it was hoped that the upkeep, which, he understood, would not exceed \$3.0 per annum, would be provided by voluntary subscriptions. A few books had been presented by brethren, but there was room for many more. It had been decided by the committee of management that the room would be run on strictly temperance lines, and, whilst chess, blackgammon, dominoes, cards, etc., would be provided, no gambling would be allowed. (Applause.) The room was open to all subscribing members to lodges in the Colony and to visiting members introduced by them, and would be open from 9 a.m. till 11 p.m. After recording the thanks of brethren for the generosity of the Zetland Lodge in placing the room at their disposal, and expressing a hope that the funds necessary for its proper maintenance would always be forthcoming, Wor. Bro. Ray consummated the ceremony by declaring the library and reading-room open.

A vote of thanks to Wor. Bro. Ray, on the call of Bro. J. J. Bryan, brought the proceedings to a close.

There are several districts in Chihli where discontent is rife and where the standard of rebellion has already been hoisted. A Tientsin letter to hand, says the N.C. Daily News, now states that in the district of Yutien-hai-n, belonging to Tientsin prefecture, the malcontents number quite 3,000, and they are comparatively well provided with modern arms and ammunition, while the motto on their great, or battle standard, bears the legend: "Sweep away the Tartars and annihilate the foreigners"—the last part a most suicidal "platform" to adopt.

THE BROUGH COMPANY.

"SOWING THE WIND."

Grundy's play, *Sowing the Wind*, was repeated for the second and last time in the Theatre Royal on the 6th inst. before another full house, whose reception of the piece, especially in the third act, was enthusiastic to a degree, every detail of the passionate scene between Mr. Brabazon (Mr. Brough) and Rosamund (Mrs. Brough) being followed with rapt attention. It may justly be claimed for this not that it is one of the best ever seen on the stage of the local theatre.

"WHEN WE WERE TWENTY-ONE."

On the 7th inst. Mr. Brough put on yet another new play. *When We Were Twenty-one* has not been produced in these parts before. It enjoys a great reputation in England and America. Only natural it was therefore that there should be a crowded house to witness its first representation. There was no dubiety about the reception the new piece got, for it was very cordial and altogether appreciative. Within the four acts of *When We Were Twenty-one*, Mr. H. V. Esmond has contrived to concentrate many of the elements which go to constitute a dramatic success: the manner, however, rather than the matter is what makes for that felicitous result. It is with something of a sigh that one turns one's back upon the stage when the curtain finally drops. There is a longing left unsatisfied. The ending is too much like the last page of some Thackeray novels. "And now, children, the play is ended; let us put away the puppets and—go to bed." We can not forget that the play is ended, cannot grasp a fixed idealisation so beloved of the pit, which after all is the articulate pulse of the house. It is the romance of the play that chiefly makes it attractive. The author does not depend much upon effect. It is in the love story that the charm lies, while the interest is adequately sustained by the play of the human passions presented by the conflict and contrast of the characters. It may be excusable to glance at the plot, though it is perhaps well enough known. Richard Carewe and three friends of his undertake the responsible task of bringing up the son of an old friend of theirs who died. Young hopeful is known affectionately as "The Imp," and so much do his ongoing beliefs the carefulness of his early training that the pet appellation can well be applied to him in a sense in which it was not originally bestowed. He is engaged to Phyllis Ericson, a pretty girl, one of Carewe's household, much to the satisfaction of the four godfathers, who by the way are in the habit of referring to themselves as the "trinity," with the same disregard of numerical accuracy that "The Three Musketeers" of our acquaintance so egregiously displayed, and with such entrancing results. But to return: the "Imp" becomes entangled with a music-hall star who glories in a scarcity of skirt and reputation and who manages to inveigle the enamoured youth into secretly marrying her, she thinking that he is rich. The "Imp's" secret is discovered through the "Imp" dropping a letter from his innamorata, which misleads his four sponsors as well as Phyllis become acquainted with the contents of, with electric effects that may be imagined. But Phyllis does not know that the "Imp" is the person to whom the letter refers, and Carewe, in a chivalrous endeavour to spare her the pain the disclosure of the real state of things might engender, allows her to conclude that it is he himself who is entangled with the lady of the music-hall; and a powerful scene—the scene of the play—occurs between Carewe and Phyllis in which Phyllis taunts him almost to madness about his queen of the footlights. Meanwhile the "trinity" try to rescue the "Imp" from the consequences of his rashness, but their efforts are of no avail; he worships the "Firefly" as she is called and denounces the "trinity" as traitors for denouncing her. In the midst of all this convulsion it becomes apparent to Carewe and Phyllis that they love each other—she has never really cared for the "Imp"—and after some charming love passages and a clearing of the air with regard to Carewe's real position, they ultimately get engaged whilst the "Imp" adheres to his belief and faith in the music-hall girl and is only disillusioned when she, finding that he is not a man of fortune, deserts him for an

old lover. That is the skeleton of the plot. Written by an actor as it is, the play does not possess to any degree the features that generally characterise the productions of an actor-playwright. As we have indicated, it is not "stagey"—a nasty word, but there is no equivalent so expressive. *When We Were Twenty-one* is a fine play in every sense of the term. Its movement is on the surface easy, its motive is subtle and its environment domestic. Played by an indifferent company, one could imagine it a wholly unattractive piece. There is in it nothing of melodrama. The "curtains" are arranged with the skill which we may expect an actor to bring to bear upon his work. But they would be thin in the estimation of a provincial manager. The most powerful scene is that in which Phyllis taunts Carewe with his supposed infatuation for the "Firefly." It undoubtedly would be a worthy "curtain." But no; Mr. Esmond lets the act close with, in our opinion, a less effective scene, the "Imp" flinging out of the room in a rage with his four guardians. The first act is colourless with the exception of the last episode before the curtain falls; the second really contains the climax of the story; the third is consequently weak; and the fourth is, as all last acts in this kind of plays should be, placid and full. We should like to see *When We Were Twenty-one* in a setting of the Forties. It would strengthen the flavour. As it is, Mr. Esmond's play is a play the presentation of which calls for no mediocre abilities on the part of the persons presenting it. We are fortunate in having had it brought out under the aegis of Mr. Brough. The representation of it which the Brough Company gave was wholly admirable. There are three parts in it that can be called principal. First of all is Mr. Carewe; this character was assumed by Mr. Brough and done in a manner that in the opinion of some eclipsed all his previous efforts. The role gives opportunity for the exercise of those high talents of characterisation and finesse possessed in so eminent a degree by Mr. Brough, and of these opportunities he did not let one pass. His acting was splendid and called forth repeated tokens of admiration. Miss Brenda Gibson as Phyllis acquitted herself most notably. Phyllis is the best thing she has done here. Her portrayal of the character was charming, and this added to her charms of person made the house welcome her every appearance on the stage and feel that something was lacking when she was off. In the part of the "Imp" Mr. Ernest Vere shone with unmistakable lustre and proved again if need were the versatility and forcefulness of his powers. His "Imp" was admired by everyone. Mrs. Brough did what little she had to do as the "Firefly" excellently. Miss Susie Vaughan brought all her accustomed finish and conscientiousness of method to bear upon her character study of Mrs. Ericson. Mr. Leslie Victor as Sir Horace Plumley, Mr. W. T. Lovell as Colonel Graham and Mr. Percy Walshe as Dr. McGrath were uniformly clever, and the Doctor's brogue was delightful. The other parts were well filled by Miss Gillies Brown (Budgie Ingram), Miss Temple (Babette), Mr. Orlando Daly (David Hirsch), Mr. M. McLean (Hughie Belmont), Mr. McIntyre (Wallis Brundall) and Mr. Charles Bartly (Herbert Corrie). The setting of the play was of a piece with the traditions of the Brough Company, excellent. Mr. Claude White is to be congratulated upon the success of his scenic efforts.

On the 9th inst. the Brough Company gave a repetition of H. V. Esmond's play *When We Were Twenty-one* before a crowded house. The piece got a flattering reception and the principals were warmly applauded. Miss Gibson and Mr. Brough were very successful in the respective parts of Phyllis and Carewe.

"THE LIARS."

The changes constantly taking place in the productions by the Brough Comedy Company attended as they are by the most gratifying results, furnish striking proof of the versatility and resource of the clever organisation at present in occupancy of the Theatre Royal. *The Liars*, Henry Arthur Jones's play, had its turn on the 10th inst. and throughout the whole of its four acts a common sentiment united players

and audience, the author's grasp of the requirements of the average theatre-going public being one of its clearness by the interpretation put upon his work. Mr. Brough appeared as Colonel Sir Christopher Deering, and acted with his usual skill and thoroughness, as did that other "tower of strength" to the Company, Mr. W. T. Lovell, who assumed the rôle of Edward Falkner. Mr. Orlando Daly and Mr. M. McLean, stage brothers in the parts respectively of Gilbert and George Nepean, created very favourable impressions, and clever also were the Freddy Tatton of Mr. Leslie Victor and the Archibald Coke of Mr. Percy Walshe. Mrs. Brough's characterisation of Lady Jessica was exceedingly good and quite in line with her other successes during the present season, which has also given us opportunity to admire the talent possessed by Miss Susie Vaughan, whose Mrs. Crespin was another finished exhibition of her powers. Miss Temple's contribution to the success of the cast was unmistakable, and the Dolly Coke of Miss Brenda Gibson was given in the best style of the charming impersonator of Phyllis Ericson in *When We Were Twenty-one*. The minor parts were all creditably filled and were distributed as follows:—Waiter at the "Star and Garter," Mr. McIntyre; Gadsby (a footman), Mr. Higson; Taplin (a servant), Mr. Edwards; footman at Cadogan Gardens, Mr. Harrison; Beatrice Ebernoe, Miss Helen Bogle; Ferris (a maid), Miss Gillies Brown. The play was admirably mounted, the scenic effects reflecting high credit upon the artist, Mr. Claude White. Amongst the audience were H. E. Sir Henry and Lady Blake and party from Government House.

"THE SECOND MRS. TANQUERAY."

In the play which the Brough Company staged on the 11th inst. at the Theatre Royal we have an expression of dramatic art that was viewed with mixed regard when originally set forth for the test of public discrimination; but in whatever light it may have been viewed at first and in spite of the hostile criticism levelled against the play, there is no questioning the fact that Mr. Pinero struck a grand, true, powerful note in the accomplishment of this wonderful work. *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* is as potent an attraction to day as when it bore the pristine flush of novelty, nor is the story of Paula one to be likely soon to disappear from the stage. The hour is past for the discussion of the right and the wrong of the problem play; it has brought its own justification in that it has never lost but rather gained ground in the public favour. It may shock some supersensitive minds, but it lays bare the human heart and passions as they are; it may teach morality only by negation, but it does not cant. Of such is *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*. Its representation by the Brough Company last evening was worthy of the play and worthy of the Brough traditions. As Paula Tanqueray Mrs. Brough had a part to play which makes numerous calls upon the exponent. Her treatment of the rôle was admirable. In the lighter passages no less than in the heavy her acting was splendid, and in the great scene of the play she rose to a height of dramatic fervour and power that carried the house away. Mr. Brough as Audrey Tanqueray made an appearance that was nothing if not excellent. All the other parts were capitally done. The setting was of the customary good quality. Appended is the full cast:—

Sir George Orreyed, Bart	.....	Mr. Orlando Daly
Captain Hugh Ardale	.....	Mr. Ernest Vere
Aubrey Tanqueray	.....	Mr. Brough
Frankley Drumm's	.....	Mr. Leslie Victor
Frank Misquith	.....	Mr. Percy Walshe
Gordon Jayne, M.D.	.....	Mr. McIntyre
Morse	.....	Mr. M. McLean
Lady Orreyed	.....	Miss Temple
Mrs. Cortelyon	.....	Miss Susie Vaughan
Ellen	.....	Miss Brenda Gibson
Paula	.....	Mrs. Brough

"NIOB."

As was to be expected, the performance of *Niobe*—"all smiles"—attracted a full house last night, and it goes without saying that the Brough Company did ample justice to the piece. Mrs. Brough in the title rôle fulfilled every expectation and thoroughly delighted the audience. No less successful in his interpretation was Mr. Brough as the manager of

the Universal Insurance Company. Many will doubtless recollect the successful performance of the piece by the Brough Company on their last visit, and the comedy is so well-known to playgoers that there is no need to describe it here at any length. It suffices to say that the performance was fully up to the high standard of excellence we have learnt to expect in any play staged by the Brough Company and the audience, it was very evident, most thoroughly enjoyed the piece.

"ALACRITY" CORK CLUB.

The first dinner got up by the *Alacrity* Cork Club was held on the 11th inst. in Thomas's Hotel and proved a great success. Dr. Mackeown, R.N., presided. The menu was as follows:—

SOUP.
Ox Tail.
FISH.
Boiled.
ENTREES.
Stewed Chicken and Cauliflower.
Lamb Chop Cutlets.
Baked Fillet Beef and Green Peas. Lobster Salad.
JOINTS.
Roast Beef. Baked Goose and Apple Sauce.
Cold York Ham. Galantine of Capar.
VEGETABLES.
Boiled Potatoes. Cabbage. Green Peas.
Baked Potatoes.
PASTRY.
Blackcap Pudding. Almond Sand Cakes.
Vanilla Ice Cream. Finger Cakes.
Tea and Coffee. Cheese and Crackers.
DESSERT.

After dinner, the customary loyal and patriotic toasts were given from the chair and enthusiastically honoured. A smoking concert followed. For this a splendid programme had been drawn up, and thanks to the energetic exertions of Mr. B. Brodziak, hon. secretary of the Club and a popular member of the *Alacrity* ship's company, the artistes comprised some of the best talent available in the Colony. A musical act by the Brothers Francis was among the best efforts of the evening. The toast of "The *Alacrity* Cork Club" was proposed by the Chairman in felicitous terms, and Mr. E. Harwin, the President, was no less happy in his reply. Mr. Brodziak gave the toast of "The Visitors," to which Mr. G. Vercoe replied. A most enjoyable evening was brought to a close with "God Save the King." The following was the concert programme:—

Pianoforte Solo Mr. G. Hyde
Song "Never been there before" Mr. E. Harwin
Recitation "Sermon on the Mount"
Mr. G. Burnett
Banjo Duet (Mr. S. G. Purvey
Mr. H. Batt
Song "Let 'em all go" Mr. G. Burgess
Song "Life Boat's Crew" Mr. J. Driscoll
Musical Act, (Mr. Don Francis
Mr. Frank Francis
Song ... "The Old Farmhouse" ... Mr. G. Palmer
Song "The Plumber" Mr. G. Burgess
Song "Mary of Argyll" Mr. G. Burnett
Song "All thro' the Gee Gee" Mr. G. Palmer
"God Save the King."

FORGED BANKNOTES AT SHANGHAI.

The following is from Saturday's *Shanghai Mercury*:—As anticipated would be the case, the discovery that some forged Hongkong and Shanghai Bank notes were in circulation, has caused some little flutter in native circles. The rush on the part of the Chinese to get their money converted into silver, which set in yesterday, continued to-day, though in a somewhat milder form. The excitement, such as it was, began early in the forenoon, when many Chinese began to appear at the Bank premises demanding payment of the notes they held. Needless to say all the genuine notes were immediately cashed, whilst the forged notes, of which, we understand, under \$40 worth have been presented, were stamped "forgery" and handed back. The imitation of the genuine note is a very clumsy one and nobody but the veriest ignoramus could be deceived by it. The police were on duty at the Bank during the day, but their services were not required.

Yesterday evening a Japanese, who described himself as having come from Hongkong, was arrested by a shopkeeper in North Szechuen Road and taken to Hongkew Police Station on the charge of having attempted to pass a spurious \$5 note. On being searched at the

station he was discovered to be in possession of five false \$5 notes on the H. & S. Bank and three of the Imperial Bank counterfeit. A formal charge was laid against him at the Japanese Consular Court to-day and he was remanded in custody of the Japanese authorities. It is confidently expected that the arrest of this man will lead to the discovery and breaking up of the gang of forgers who have been flooding the East with these spurious imitations of banknotes and causing so much trouble here and at other ports in China and Japan.

SUPREME COURT.

Friday, 6th March.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE).

DISPUTE ABOUT A JUNK.

The case was again called in which the Ho Tung Hop had issued an inter-pleader summons claiming as theirs a junk which had been seized by an execution creditor. Mr. John Hays, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Master, solicitors, appeared for the claimant and Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro, solicitor, for the execution creditor.

On the last hearing, Ho Shok Tai on behalf of the claimant stated that the junk was bought by his mother with money belonging to his father's estate but no case of administration to his father's estate had been taken out; in which circumstance his Lordship granted an adjournment to allow Mr. Hays to reconsider his client's position.

Mr. Hays now stated that on consideration he had decided not to proceed with the suit. His Lordship accordingly gave judgment for the execution creditor with costs.

Monday, 9th March.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M
GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

LAND COURT APPEAL CASE.

Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. Wei On of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, solicitors), appeared in support of an application by Li Ki Tong, merchant, 5, Glenealy Road, for leave to appeal to the Full Court against a decision of the Land Court in respect of certain land in the New Territories, namely EY, serial number 1467, Survey District No. 4. The applicant made a claim for the land and the Land Court gave judgment against him on 23rd February. The land was situated at Kak Tong Hom otherwise known as Lung Ko Shui, Tong Hang Chai and Sha Li Yuen. Appellant's claim came on for hearing on various days prior to 23rd February and the Land Court certified the value of the land to be over \$5,000.

Mr. Slade stated that the ground of appeal was that the appellant had no opportunity of being present while material witnesses in opposition to his claim were examined before the Land Court.

His Lordship remarked that there was no ground stated in the application paper.

Mr. Slade replied that that was because the thing had to be done in a tremendous hurry.

His Lordship thought that the appellant must have known that the property was worth \$5,000 and therefore open to an appeal to the higher Court.

Mr. Slade said that Mr. Danby who was asked to value the land was not able to give his report until the 3rd of March. He was proceeding to read the affidavits when

His Lordship (interposing) said that possibly the appellant was one of those land speculators in the New Territory buying up a number of lots, who took all they could get and appealed when the decision of the Land Court was against them. The Land Court was far more able to deal with these cases than the Supreme Court and even then it was questionable whether the decision of the Supreme Court would be absolutely satisfactory and final; for sometimes

there were four or five claimants for the same piece of land and if, for instance, No. 5 made his claim good as against No. 1, Nos. 4, 3, and 2 were still able to contest the successful claim. The Land Court was not bound by technicalities and legal usage, like the Supreme Court.

Mr. Slade pointed out that under the Ordinance the Land Court was bound by the same rules that applied to the Supreme Court.

His Lordship said they could admit evidence in the Land Court that was inadmissible in the Supreme Court.

Mr. Slade contended that under Section 6 of the Ordinance the Land Court had no more powers than the Supreme Court.

His Lordship responded that the Land Court had some of the special powers of the Supreme Court conferred upon it but nothing was said as to what evidence it might receive.

Mr. Slade—The Land Court is as much a court of justice as this Court.

His Lordship admitted the truth of that, but remarked that if the same technicalities had to be followed in the Land Court as were followed in the Supreme Court they would take perhaps twenty years to decide the whole of the claims. Of course the remarks he had made were general, but he had the very strongest opinion that the best tribunal for trying these claims in the New Territory, considering the special nature of the claims, was a court such as the Land Court, consisting of persons acquainted with the subject, who could look into the whole matter and come to a conclusion at the end which they believed to be just and fair. If they were to have a continual succession of appeals from the Land Court it would be almost better to have the cases tried in the first place before the Supreme Court; and if that was done the Supreme Court would have nothing else to do for five or six years but attend to these cases. He had very grave doubts whether or no the claimants would have more justice in the superior Court than they got in the Court below.

Mr. Slade agreed with his Lordship's argument, but pointed out that in this case they were compelled to come to the Supreme Court because they did not know what the case made against them down below was. What they really wanted was to force out of the lower Court a copy of the notes of the evidence taken in order that they might consider them and see whether it was worth while to proceed with the appeal.

His Lordship asked whether it would be fair to the Court if everyone did the same thing? The appellant might be a land speculator and probably had a great number of claims, of which many had already been granted. He took thankfully all he could get and if one case was decided against him he appealed.

Mr. Slade retorted that the appeal was made here because the appellant was not present when the evidence was taken and he had no opportunity of cross-examining the witnesses.

His Lordship remarked that there were over 50,000 claims. It could not be expected that every claimant would be present during the hearing of the evidence and he noticed that, in Mr. Wei On's affidavit, it was stated that the evidence taken was read over to the appellant and that he was informed that he could cross-examine the various witnesses in that evidence on the following day.

Mr. Slade said that this case was different. The appellant inherited the property from his father, who bought the land many years ago under the idea that there was the project of a railway between Hongkong and Canton; therefore he speculated in land. He purchased land in the New Territory outside the British boundary in the hope that the value of that land would be enhanced by the projected railway. As a matter of fact the railway had not been created and the land had been annexed to the Colony of Hongkong, and when it came about that the titles had to be settled the son of the purchaser put in a claim for the land his father bought. When the case came before the Land Court he was not given an opportunity of attending the proceedings and cross-examining the various witnesses called in support of the respective claims. The claims were investigated, he stated, some months before he got the notice to attend the Court. No copy of the evidence had been supplied to him and when he applied for a copy he was told that a copy was not available. On 23rd February he applied for a certificate of value. On the 6th inst. Mr. Slade went on to say, they applied for leave to

appeal. He might fairly state that they did not want to appeal unnecessarily. They wished to obtain a copy of the notes of the evidence taken before the Land Court and to have an opportunity of considering the matter so that they could decide whether or no it was worth going on with the appeal, and if the case appeared at all doubtful they would be only right in advising the appellant not to continue the case; but surely they were entitled to know the evidence upon which the case had been decided against the appellant. By some error or slip he had not been given notice and he did not attend the Court and had no means of ascertaining what evidence was taken in his absence. He would ask his Lordship to give them two or three weeks to obtain and consider the evidence and decide whether or no it was worth while going on with the appeal. The application was based upon irregularities in the Court below and it was difficult to know exactly what to do. The case was not met by the Ordinance at all. An irregularity had unfortunately occurred, and there was nothing in the Ordinance which dealt with an irregularity.

His Lordship did not think the Ordinance contemplated the cross-examination by every claimant of every witness who was examined in the Land Court. If the Land Court was strictly bound down on legal points and technicalities it might as well never have been constituted. If every case that came before the Land Court had to be tried precisely in the same way that cases were tried in the Supreme Court he would guarantee that the Court would be doing nothing else for twenty years but trying such cases. The idea of the Ordinance was this: They had got an immense number of claims, many of which could not be substantiated if investigated strictly in a court of law, some based on occupation and some on old documents, many of which were imperfect copies of originals and were solemnly put forward as proof.

Mr. Slade—But they admit they are copies.

His Lordship said they admitted as much only when cross-examined. In the Supreme Court these would be called forgeries. In some cases no less than five claimants sent in claims, all apparently good titles. Now, four out of the five must have been forgeries. Of course if a man did not like a decision of the Land Court he had a perfect right to appeal against it, but it was better that the cases should be decided by two or three people conversant with the subject than that everybody should be put to an enormous expense. He supposed that 30,000 or 40,000 of the New Territory claims had been settled satisfactorily to all parties by the Land Court. It was right, he thought, that in the case of valuable property there should be an appeal. He foresaw at the time the Ordinance was framed that there would be a good deal of difficulty about these appeals. In this particular case he thought the best thing to do was to adjourn the further hearing of the application so as to give time to obtain a copy of the notes of the evidence taken by the Land Court. That course was preferable because it gave time to apply for leave to appeal on certain terms. If the appellant got the notes and after considering the matter came to the conclusion that he did not want to go on with this case the other side would not be put to any expense. If there was a rich man on one side and a poor man on the other the poor man had the worse chance. It was put down in the Ordinance that lawyers had not to appear for claimants before the Land Court. But if every rich claimant employed a lawyer to go to the Land Court and demand a copy of the evidence so that he could decide whether he would or would not appeal, the Land Court would have to furnish many hundreds of folios.

Mr. Slade contended that it was rather hard that his Lordship should make these hard remarks, because in this case they did not know what the evidence was that was given on the other side. The successful claimant in this case was a clerk in a solicitor's office and was formerly in the Land Office. He speculated in the same way as the appellant and he had an opportunity of being present at the hearing of the evidence and knew what evidence he had to meet.

His Lordship repeated that he did not apply his remarks to this case at all. He was speaking of the general principles. If a man

had a great many claims and the Court allowed a good many of them he should not go and say "I must have an appeal" if one claim was decided against him. The man on the other side might be a very poor man and before the appeal was settled by the Supreme Court the expenses might run up to some thousands of dollars, so that the rich man who chose to appeal could set up such a state of things as would make a poor claimant rather give up half the land he claimed than fight the case. Of course he did not suggest that that applied in this case. He was willing to give the appellant a month to consider the matter. He very much doubted, however, that a reversal by the Supreme Court of the decision of the Court below would be satisfactory, for if there were five claimants and No. 1 got the award of the Supreme Court as against No. 5 it was still open for the other claimants to contest the title of the successful claimant in the appeal. The best and most substantial justice could be given by these claims being tried expeditiously, with as little legal technicality as possible, by a tribunal of men like the Land Court, thoroughly acquainted with the work and without bias. Litigants ought as far as possible to be satisfied with the decisions of the Land Court, knowing that it was composed of men more able to arrive at a good conclusion than the Supreme Court. Suppose they were to have a re-hearing they would have to bring in all the claimants. If there was a counsel to cross-examine the witnesses the hearing of evidence would occupy a longer time than it did in the Land Court. If would take them about a fortnight to hear a case and it would be so prohibitively expensive that only a rich man could undertake it. If it was a poor man on the other side he would rather say "Take the land." He would advise them to see that they had a perfectly clear case before proceeding, for in the last case of the kind there were very unsatisfactory affidavits.

Mr. Slade assured his Lordship that here they had a perfectly clear claim. The successful claimant was a smart solicitor's clerk and he was present at the hearing of the evidence and was able to cross-examine the witnesses, and the Court decided in his favour.

His Lordship stated that the observations he had made were made with regard to appeals generally. He did not encourage appeals from the Land Court because he very much doubted whether the Supreme Court was better able to consider them and decide upon them, on the absolutely technical, legal grounds upon which they had to go. He fixed 16th April for the further hearing of the case.

The Court adjourned.

Wednesday, 11th March.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE).

SEQUEL TO A COLLISION.

Lo Kam Loy sued the Dock Company for \$259.25 in respect of damages done to his cargo-boat No. 791 in a collision with the *Fame* on 12th December in the Harbour. Mr. E. J. Grist, solicitor, appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. H. W. Looker, solicitor, for the defendant.

Mr. Grist, in opening the case, stated that there was no dispute as to the collision having occurred. Plaintiff's boat was being towed from the Canton steamer wharf to the *Empress*, and was lashed alongside a steam-launch on the starboard side of the launch. The *Fame* was going from east to west, and in attempting to pass under the stern of the cargo-boat she struck her in the stern and caused damage to the extent claimed.

Captain H. Ratcliffe of Messrs. Panchard, Lowther & Co.'s dredger *St. Enoch* state that they were passing by the scene of the collision. The *Fame* was proceeding from east to west. The cargo-boat was going straight across. He heard two blasts from the steam launch, which meant that they were going to starboard their helm.

Cross-examined—The boats were about 100

yards apart when the whistle was blown. He did not hear any answering blast from the *Fame*. The launch went to port. He did not know whether the *Fame* changed her course. The launch was of course encumbered by her tow. He did not know which boat was going the faster.

The owner of the cargo-boat stated that his boat was being towed from the Canton steamer wharf to the *Empress*, lashed alongside a steam-launch. As the *Fame* approached the launch blew two blasts on her whistle. The *Fame* struck his boat and damaged her. The *Fame* was going the faster.

Mr. Looker before calling witnesses for the defence stated that the defendant's case was that the boats were crossing boats and the launch should have kept out of the way. Instead of going to port she reversed her engines and went astern.

Capt. in McIsaac deposed that he was at that time captain of the *Fame*. He was coming from the east. As the *Fame* neared the launch the latter gave two blasts which indicated that she was starboarding her helm and going to port. He did likewise. Then the launch went astern. The vessels were crossing vessels. The launch had the *Fame* on her starboard side. He was going slow before the collision on account of the crowded state of the Harbour. The cargo-boat was hardly damaged. The *Fame* just grazed her gunwale. It was the piled-up cargo that got the bulk of the blow.

Cross-examined—When he first saw the cargo-boat with launch they had each other on the starboard side. He had the cargo-boat a little on the starboard bow. Being on the starboard bow, it was his duty to keep out of the way.

And yet you took no precautions?—I did so I went slow.

But you said that was in consequence of the Harbour being full of shipping; not because of this cargo-boat.—It was one of the causes. The time between the launch giving two blasts on her whistle and the collision would probably be a minute. It was quite possible for the launch to go astern in that time notwithstanding her tow—the *Fame* could go astern in six seconds. If the launch had blown three blasts he would have known that she was going astern.

Re-examined—The launch with her tow was one of the boats that helped to make the Harbour congested and caused him to go slow.

The Chinese helmsman deposed that after the launch blew her whistle the helm of the *Fame* was put hard a-starboard. The launch went astern.

His Lordship in delivering judgment said he would have liked a little more evidence before giving a decision, but of course he had to go upon what he had. He did not think there was any question of contributory negligence in the case, for it seemed to him that the sole question was: Did the tug go astern or not? If it went astern it was clear that it was to blame. If it did not go astern then the *Fame* was to blame. There was evidence by two people that the tug did go astern, and it was absolutely uncontradicted by the other side. He gave judgment for the defendants with costs.

A DENTIST'S ACCOUNT.

W. Macleod, dentist, sued J. G. Smith for the sum of \$165.12 in respect of the supply to the defendant of one full set of artificial teeth on vulcanite with gold attachment and of the repair of a plate. Mr. Paget Hett, solicitor, appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. E. J. Grist, solicitor, for the defendant.

Plaintiff stated that there was no agreement with Mr. Smith as to what the price was to be.

Defendant deposed that he arranged with the plaintiff that the price was to be \$75. Afterwards he further arranged for the repair of a plate for \$25, making \$100 in all. He had actually paid \$105. There had been several financial dealings between Mr. Macleod and himself.

His Lordship said he had never heard of such dentistry work being done here for \$100. A Chinaman would not put in a set of teeth for that money. He had heard of \$700 and \$500 being paid over and over again, and as there was no evidence before him to show that there had been an over-charge here he would give judgment for \$50 with costs. That was not too much for the work done.

The Court adjourned.

Thursday, 12th March.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BETWEEN HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M.
GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE)

AN UNFORTUNATE DEBTOR.

O. M. Madar was examined on a bankruptcy petition filed by himself. In examination by Mr. Bruce Shepherd, the Official Receiver in Bankruptcy, the petitioner stated that he was a clerk in the Ordnance Corps Department. In April, 1899, the date of the receiving order, he had eight creditors. He owed them a total sum of \$2,500. His salary was \$110 per month. He first got into debt in 1894, when he borrowed \$200 to pay the funeral expenses of his mother, who died of plague, and the cost of removal. In 1895 he stood surety for \$200 for a friend named Yacobi who died at the end of that year and left him solely responsible. He next borrowed \$40 in 1896 to pay the funeral expenses of two of his children who died and the cost of removing to Macao. On several subsequent occasions he signed promissory notes for friends and also on his own account. Asked how he got into debt with E. S. Joseph to the extent of \$700, the petitioner said a friend of his in Canton had a cargo lying there upon which he wanted to borrow money. This man asked him to find a broker. He went to Mr. Joseph and on his friend's behalf signed an order to raise money on the cargo. Afterwards his friend repudiated his part of the bargain, and he, having signed the order, was held responsible. Mr. Joseph issued a writ against him for the amount. That was the case that brought him into Court.

His Lordship—But why did you interfere in this transaction?

Petitioner—He was my friend.

His Lordship remarked that the petitioner was not a man of money, able to make himself liable in \$700 for a friend. It was an old saying that one should not become surety for one's neighbour—unless one had got plenty of money to bear the possible loss. The bankrupt seemed to have signed a promissory note for anybody who asked him.

The Receiver—He is now beginning to learn that lesson, my Lord; he had not done it before.

Petitioner further stated that he was 31 years of age and had a family of five.

The Receiver informed his Lordship that the petitioner had proposed to pay a composition of 50 per cent., which proposal had been accepted. Since the receiving order was granted, the petitioner had paid him monthly instalments of \$40 to the amount of a little over \$1,400, so that he was now enabled to make the composition agreed to.

His Lordship said that Madar had answered all the questions put to him very straightforwardly. He was glad to see that he had paid so much in instalments. He must let this be a warning to him. If he became surety in that haphazard way to oblige people and let them keep the money he was very likely to get into trouble. His Lordship advised him to keep away from money-lenders; once in their hands he might consider himself entangled.

The examination was closed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE BUILDING NUISANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 6th March, 1903.

SIR,—The letter of "Nervous" in your issue of this morning is well worthy of a braver signature, and calls attention to a great and growing nuisance in our Colony.

The hoardings so incessantly and inconveniently obstructing pedestrian traffic are almost intolerable. They may admit of excuse as being in a measure unavoidable, but that the noisy and dangerous chipping of the "cut stone" should be carried on, as now, on our very streets and close to the unprotected eyes and faces of our citizens is absolutely needless and therefore contrary to commonsense.

Our "nervous" friend is not alone in his protest, and we ask our authorities, so over-ready to redress our grievances, to issue a mandate which shall not merely check but effectually stop the practice.—Yours, etc.,

ONE WHO HAS NO EYES TO LOSE.

CANTON.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 10th March.

HEALTH OF THE CITY.

The usual epidemic of cholera and plague has now returned to Canton, and the familiar white mourning decorations are conspicuous in almost every street, particularly inside the city, where the native ingenuities of insanitation are carried to their highest pitch. Fortunately there is no fear of a recurrence of last year's water famine, for the rains have recently continued without cessation, and neighbouring fields are largely under water; as, however, the crops are quite young, it will tend rather to improve the rice than otherwise.

EXECUTION OF SOLDIERS.

The recent levies of troops have resulted in lowering their general standard, and many of the men are of necessity recruited from the dregs of the population. Consequently a severe discipline is necessary to prevent abuses, and numbers have been recently executed, first some for stealing from the villagers near the parade ground, and afterwards some for pawing their guns to obtain money for gambling.

BOOT AND SHOEMAKERS' STRIKE.

The strike of boot and shoe operatives, who have a sort of trade union here, has hampered the trade considerably, and the dispute has not yet been settled.

SWATOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 10th March.

NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

The U.S. gunboats *Villalobos* and *Elcano*, accompanied by the American supply-ship *Pompey*, called in here on their way to Amoy and Shanghai. H.I. M.S. *Illis* is in port now, having arrived from Hongkong a week ago.

JAPANESE ENTERPRISE.

A party of Japanese, with an outfit of tools for artesian well-boring, arrived here from Foochow and have commenced boring operations in the English Presbyterian Mission compound. Should their undertaking be successful it would be an invaluable boon for Swatow and allay all anxieties during a drought, which occurs rather frequently here.

THE TROUBLE AT WEICHOW.

News of a very reassuring nature has reached here from Weichow, where indications point to a cessation of the recent outbreak of disturbance.

GEO. FENWICK & CO., LD.

GENERAL MEETING.

The 14th ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held on the 9th inst. in the Hongkong Hotel. Mr. W. Parlano (chairman) presided, and the others present were Messrs. A. Rodger, J. I. Andrew, S. J. Michael, Hart Buck, J. Rodger, W. H. Purcell, and W. G. Winterburn (general manager).

The notice calling the meeting having been read by the GENERAL MANAGER.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, I presume that you will, as usual, take the accounts as read, and trust you consider them satisfactory. As stated there, during the early months of the year work was scarce but later on it brightened, and for some time past we have been fully employed and the prospects for 1903 are good. During the year our total of work was much less than usual, having had no very large contracts, but we put through a great variety of work, including the installation of hot-water and sanitary work for nearly all the principal new buildings in the Colony, work that can only be done satisfactorily under the supervision of highly trained Europeans; and although competition in all departments has been keen, owing to the lessened quantity of work offering, we, I need hardly say, are quite able to hold our own, and are glad to be able to pay the same dividend as during the past three years. We continue to replace old by modern plant as occasion occurs, and have just imported some air-compressing machinery, with the aim of reducing labour costs. The land and property stand at \$70,000, this after

replacing part of machine-house roof by a new iron one; this figure, I need hardly say, is no criterion of the real value of the property. At our last meeting I indicated that we hoped to remove our works to another site, and at that time had asked the Government to put up a site named to auction, and in anticipation had made the necessary financial arrangements; but after a delay of some 18 months, the Government offered a portion of the same site, but attached such overwhelming conditions in the way of reclaiming land, making stone nullahs, &c., all to be handed over to the Government, that we are unable to accept the conditions imposed; so that, in this respect, we stand where we did. With these remarks, before moving the adoption of the report and accounts, I will be glad to give any further information you may require regarding them.

There were no questions, and on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. HART BUCK, the report and accounts as presented were adopted and passed.

Mr. PURCELL proposed the re-election of Mr. A. Rodger as director.

Mr. MICHAEL seconded, and the motion was agreed to unanimously.

Mr. J. RODGE next proposed the re-election of Mr. Arnold as auditor.

Mr. ANDREW seconded, and the proposition was carried without opposition.

This was all the business.

HONGKONG & KOWLOON WHARF
& GODOWN CO., LD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The 16th ordinary annual meeting of the above Company was held on Thursday in the Company's offices, 2, Connaught Road. Hon. C. W. Dickson (chairman) presided, and there were also present Messrs. N. A. Siebs, A. J. Raymond, G. H. Medhurst, J. M. Moses, C. H. Thompson, H. Schubart, Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Messrs. A. G. Wood, E. Goetz, E. A. Hewett, C. Michelan (directors), A. B. Lowe, S. J. Michael, R. Chatterton Wilcox, J. Guosmann, Captain Clark, Messrs. J. R. Michael, Ho Fook, R. J. Macgowan, G. W. May and E. Osborne (secretary).

The SECRETARY having read the notice calling the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, The report and accounts which have been in your possession for several days, and which I conclude you are agreeable to taking as read, are so very fully stated that there is but little remaining for me to say in regard to them. Business during the year was on the whole dull and disappointing and I cannot say that there appears to be any immediate prospect of improvement. The violent fluctuations in exchange which have been experienced have engendered a feeling of uneasiness in regard to our silver currency, and until that be overcome importers are likely to continue keeping very moderate stocks. A good deal of damage was done to several of our properties by a typhoon which occurred in August last, necessitating an outlay for repairs of about \$4,500. You will have noted that the net profit for 1902 is some \$27,000 larger than the previous year and may perhaps ask how it is that with better results your directors should recommend slightly less dividend. To such a question I would remind you that in 1901 the balance available for distribution was increased by nearly \$14,000 from premium on the new issue of shares, and you will observe that it is proposed to carry forward rather more to the current year than was done 12 months ago. In order to meet our steadily increasing expenditure arising from lower exchange, your directors decided to make their charges in sterling from the 1st January, and in response to representations from the Company's European employees agreed to fix their salaries half in sterling and half in dollars. My predecessors in the chair have at our annual meetings referred to the plague and its bearing upon the Company's business. I am glad to say that the improvements which have been made in our Chinese employees' quarters have amply justified the expense, for whilst in previous years a number of them succumbed to the disease and work at the wharves was thereby seriously disorganised, last year not a single case occurred although the scourge was prevalent in the

neighbourhood. I trust we may be equally fortunate this year. Before moving the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

There were no questions asked.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the resolution.

Mr. WILCOX seconded, and the motion was adopted unanimously.

Mr. LOWE moved the confirmation of the appointment of Pon. C. W. Dickson, Messrs. C. Michelan and A. G. Wood as directors.

Mr. S. J. MICHAEL seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. WILCOX, seconded by Mr. S. J. MICHAEL, Messrs. E. Goetz and H. Schubart were re-elected to the directors' a.

On the motion of Captain CLARK, seconded by Mr. GOOSMANN, Messrs. W. H. Potts and A. O'D. Gourdin were re-elected auditors.

This was all the business.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL CO., LD.

The following is the report of the board of directors be presented at the ordinary meeting of shareholders, held at the Company's Hotel, at noon, on Friday, the 13th March:

Gentlemen,—The directors now beg to submit their report for the half-year ended the 31st December, 1902.

ACCOUNTS.

The profit on working account amounted to \$90,165.45, as compared with \$88,550.33 for the corresponding period of 1901, being an increase of \$1,615.12.

The profit and loss account, including the sum of \$14,466.05 brought forward from 30th June, 1902, shows a credit balance of \$93,272.09, which your directors propose to apportion as follows:—

To pay a dividend of 12 per cent. for the half-year ... \$72,000.00
To write off from value of furniture and fixtures ... 10,000.00
To transfer to repairs and renewals account ... 10,000.00
To write off from value of steam-launch ... 1,000.00
To carry forward to new account ... 272.09

\$93,272.09

DIRECTORS.

Mr. W. Hutton Potts retires by rotation, but offers himself for re-election.

AUDIT.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. H. U. Jeffreys and A. R. Lowe, who offer themselves for re-election.

W. HUTTON POTTS,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 4th March, 1903.

The accounts are as follows:—

BALANCE-SHEET, 31st December, 1902.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital—			
12,000 shares at \$50 each (fully paid-up)	600,000.00		
1,000 mortgage debentures, authorised, issued at \$50 each	50,000.00		
Less 550 do. not issued	275,000.00		
	225,000.00		
Reserve fund	140,000.00		
Sundry creditors	33,379.34		
Unclaimed dividends	5,889.60		
Profit and loss account	93,272.09		
	\$1,057,541.43		

ASSETS.

Value of land and buildings as per last report:—	
Marine Lot No. 5 and remaining portion of Marine Lot No. 3	\$372,045.60
Remaining portion of Marine Lot No. 7	368,108.20
Praya Reclamation	21,291.77
New building on reclamation to Marine Lot No. 7, payments on account	32,016.45
	\$793,462.02
Value of furniture and fixtures as per last report	\$91,306.06
Less written off, as recommended in last report	10,000.00
	\$81,306.06
Since added	5,544.69
	\$86,850.75

Brought forward	\$83,312.77
Stock of linen, crockery and glassware, &c.	43,205.23
Stock of wines, provisions, household sundries, and stationery	15,688.51
Shares in public companies, as per last report	7,033.81
Less 25 shares Campbell Moore & Co., Ltd. sold	747.50
	6,286.31
Licenses attaching to 1901	1,244.32
Value of steam launch as per last report	\$11,000.00
Less written off, as recommended in last report	1,000.00
	10,000.00
Sundry debtors	66,906.42
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	1,765.38
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, No. 2 account	5,890.00
Cash in hand	262.46
	\$1,057,541.43

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

For the six months ending 31st December, 1902.		
Dr.		\$
To bad debts and refunds	...	2,048.48
To rates	...	2,831.28
To half-year's interest on debentures (\$225,000 at 3 per cent.)	...	6,750.00
To fire insurance	...	1,752.75
To Crown rent	...	478.89
To repairs and renewals account	...	6,969.22
To directors' and auditors' fees	...	3,200.00
To balance, to be appropriated as follows:—		
To pay a dividend of 12 per cent.	\$72,000.00	
To write off furniture and fixtures	10,000.00	
To set aside against repairs and renewals	10,000.00	
To write off steam launch	1,000.00	
To carry forward to new account	272.09	
		<u>93,272.09</u>
		\$115,494.81

Cr.	\$	c.
By balance from 30th June, 1902	\$112,466.05	
Less dividend at 12 per cent.	\$72,000.00	
Less transferred to reserve fund	5,000.00	
Less transferred to repairs and renewals account	10,000.00	
Less written off furniture and fixtures	10,000.00	
Less written off steam launch	1,000.00	
	\$98,000.00	
	\$14,466.05	

By rents of shops and offices, new building	\$8,400.00
By rents of shops and offices, old building	6,380.00
	\$14,780.00
By dividends on shares in public companies	478.00
By scrip and transfer fees	45.00
By bad debts recovered	5.10
By interest account	1,307.21
By dividends forfeited	128.00
By profit on Hotel working account for the six months ending 31st December, 1902	\$90,165.45
	\$115,491.81

REPAIRS AND RENEWALS ACCOUNT

Dr.	\$	c.
To payments on account of repairs and renewals	\$19,848.46	
	\$19,848.46	
Cr.	\$	c.
By balance from 30th June, 1902	2,879.21	
By transfer from profit and loss account, as recommended in last report	10,000.00	
By balance, transferred to profit and loss account	9,969.22	
	\$19,848.46	

With the so-called "lease" of Port Arthur to Russia, Kiaochow to Germany, and Weihaiwei to Great Britain, the Chinese Northern, or Peiyang, Squadron has been as it were homeless and without any permanent naval headquarters north of the Yellow River for the past few years. Viceroy Yuan Shikai, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, intends now to remedy matters and has obtained the vicinity of the Chefoo forts, at the mouth of Chefoo harbour, for the purpose. The Shantung troops that have hitherto garrisoned the forts in question are to be withdrawn and the forts and buildings adjacent to them turned over to Admiral Yeh, commanding the Peiyang Squadron, who will make the place the future headquarters of the Squadron. It is further stated that the Peiyang Naval Academy, hitherto in Tientsin, is also to be removed to Chefoo on this account.

REVIEW.

The Silver Standard and the Straits Currency Question. By AUGUST HUTTENBACK. Messrs. Kelly and Walsh.

THIS little volume of 147 pages should be read by everybody interested in the question of the hour. The author is an advocate of a gold standard and his arguments are put with commendable lucidity and terseness. He first discusses the silver standard in its relation to prices, the wage-earner, trade, the Government, the country and the producer. In the second part of the book the question of a gold standard for the Straits is dealt with, having regard to the circumstances of the local trade. Concerning the Straits trade with China the author declares that as regards China's purchases from the Straits they are to a great extent the produce of the surrounding countries, which China must have, and which are not produced by any other silver-using country. And as regards the import trade of the Straits from China, that would be carried on alike under any standard. The problem in the Straits as in Hongkong is difficult through the Straits trade being a transit trade, but is more complicated than here, for Hongkong, as the author remarks, would have only one hinterland to reckon with and not with a dozen of them like the Straits, and these differently constituted and disposed. The problem consists in constructing a method which while giving fixity cannot through its means of introduction inflict injury on the Straits and co-users, and the chief interest of Mr. Huttenback's book centres of course in the scheme suggested by him to accomplish the object above indicated. It is described retrospectively in what the author entitles "The History of the Reform, 1903 to 1904," and is as follows:—

(1) The new currency altered little in what was then the Straits currency. The only alterations were that the silver dollar was, as soon as it was no more required, to be done away with and that the sovereign and the one-dollar note were to be added.

The ratio adopted was twelve dollars to the sovereign.

The Government would sell notes at the ratio and give gold at the same ratio for all notes and only for notes tendered.

Notes and/or sovereigns were to be legal tender to any amount.

(2) The Straits Government was appointed the Executive of the Monetary Union and were to give effect to all decisions arrived at, including all concerning the new currency.

(3) The new currency was only to apply to transactions subsequent to its introduction. From the date of introduction all revenue, wages, new bargains, etc., were to be paid in the new currency unless otherwise specially contracted for.

(4) Private rights were not to be interfered with. Contracts, debts, etc., were to be liquidated in the currency contracted for within a fixed period. Provision was made for debts and contracts expiring after that period, such as mortgages and leases, to have the same just treatment.

(5) A fixed period was arranged during which the old and new currency were in operation concurrently but each for a different purpose. The new currency, viz., the notes for new transaction only. The silver dollar to liquidate the past only.

(6) Measures had been concerted to clear the whole system after the period of transition of the silver dollar if it should then be advisable to do so, and on a plan which could not disturb anything.

(7) The cost of the whole scheme was estimated at \$200,000 per annum for ten years and decided to be divided *pro rata* amongst all components of the Monetary Union in proportion to their population.

The Government contracted a loan of £700,000 repayable in ten years by ten yearly equal instalments. That loan, guaranteed by the Imperial Government, was easily negotiated at the rate of 3 per cent. interest per annum. The gold securities held as a reserve against the dollar-note circulation were sold and realised another £300,000. The Government had thus £1,000,000 in hand. Ample, not only to change the silver reserve into gold, but sufficient also to pay every note in circulation in gold.

We have given sufficient indication of the contents of this little volume to commend it to all students of the currency question. Whether the reader agrees entirely with the author's conclusions or not he will assuredly feel that the book has been worth reading.

CRICKET.

H.K.C.C. v. THE NAVY.

The above match, which was played on the 7th inst. in dull weather, was the fourth that the H.K.C.C. have played against the Navy this season. The first match resulted in a draw in favour of the Club, the second ended in a draw in favour of the Navy, in the third the Club gained a decisive victory, and in the fourth—the one under review—the Navy equalised matters by winning by 22 runs. Thus, during the present season, superiority cannot be claimed by either side and it is perhaps a pity that it is now too late to arrange a deciding match. It was known that the Navy would perhaps be able to put their strongest eleven into the field, as nearly all the cricket-playing ships happen to be in the harbour just at this time. The Club, too, had a fairly representative side, though it might undoubtedly have been strengthened, especially in batting, and, as a matter of fact, it was weakness in this department that lost them the game.

The record for unpunctuality was eclipsed on this occasion, as it was 12.20 before a start was made—exactly 80 minutes after the advertised time! This state of affairs was mainly due to the members of the Club team, only five of whom had appeared on the ground at 12 o'clock! Unpunctuality has been a very prominent feature of the present season, and though in some cases unavoidable to a great extent, it is undoubtedly due to the lack of keenness and enthusiasm that has been so apparent. It is to be hoped that before next season comes round the Committee will devise some means of remedying this growing evil.

Ward was once again successful in the spin of the coin and decided that his side should bat first. He accordingly sent in Lambie and Rimington to face the bowling of MacKinlay and Carter. With 18 scored, Rimington made a lame stroke and was caught at mid-on. Ward followed and a good stand was made, both batsmen playing carefully. They were still together at one o'clock when the tiffin bell rang, the score then being 56 for one wicket. After tiffin, as so frequently happens, wickets fell rapidly. Ward was the first to go, being bowled for a useful 29—he had helped Lambie to add 44 runs for the second wicket—then Dixon was bowled for 9 and soon afterwards Lambie's invaluable innings was brought to a close—he had made 32 in excellent style. Hancock and Elborough made a bit of a stand, but, after scoring 15, the former was also bowled. Fawcett—still pursued by his ill-luck—Bird, Hooper and Gray all failed; meanwhile Elborough played sound cricket, and, by his skill and confidence, showed that, after all, the bowling was not unplayable. Woodgates came in place of Fanshawe, who, though chosen to play, never turned up at all, and, with Elborough, added 18 runs for the last wicket. With the downfall of his wicket the innings terminated for the moderate score of 148. Elborough carried out his bat for an inestimable 45, and too much praise cannot be given to him for his plucky effort. The general weakness of batting may be judged from the fact that between them four men made 129 out of the 148 runs scored and no less than seven men were clean bowled, and that on a comparatively easy wicket! True, the light was bad, but it is to be feared that lack of practice was the chief cause of the weakness of defence. Garde was in excellent form "behind the sticks" and, as will be seen, gave away no extras. The fielding was good, though at least one catch was missed. Toulmin bowled uncommonly well and took 5 wickets for 34 runs. Allenby and Garde started the batting for the Navy, and Dixon and Bird bowled. Allenby gave little trouble, as also did Cooke, but, on Moore joining Garde, a determined stand was made, and, despite several changes of bowling, the score was taken to 83 before Garde was well caught in the long-field by Gray for an excellent innings of 43. Punnett did not stay long, being

well caught and bowled by Rimington, but Carter again played good cricket and materially helped Moore to increase the score. The latter played splendidly and his was the highest individual score of the match. He was not got rid of until 120 had been "telegraphed," at which total he was caught for an admirable 52. With 23 runs still wanted by the Navy, it looked as if the Club might possibly pull off the match. Any hopes to that effect were, however, immediately dispersed on the arrival of Blair, who lost no time in setting about making the necessary runs. He hit at almost everything, and in about ten minutes the Club total was passed. Blair's 31, coming when it did, was most useful and certainly materially helped to win the match for the Navy. The vigour of his hitting may be judged from the fact that his 31 contained no less than seven 4's! Carter's excellent innings was brought to a close by a very pretty catch at short slip by Hancock, who had given up the gloves to Elborough. None of the others did much, and the whole side were out for 170. Curiously enough, as on the Club side, four men were mainly responsible for the Navy's total, as they scored 149 runs between them—the rest including "Mr Extras," scoring 21! Hancock, who went on bowling at the end—it was a mistake that he was not tried before—came out with the excellent analysis of 3 wickets for 7 runs. Dixon bowled steadily throughout, though he was rather severely treated by Blair, and his 5 wickets for 59 was a decidedly good performance. The Club fielding was much above the average and—*mirabile dictu*—there were no catches missed! On the other hand there were several excellent catches made, notably the ones by Gray and Hancock mentioned above, and a very smart one by Dixon at short slip that disposed of Blair. Indeed, both the bowling and fielding were good—it was really a very creditable performance to get rid of so strong a batting side for 170—and if the batting had only been up to the same standard, the result might well have been different. Mention must be made of the general utility of Elborough, who not only played the best innings of his side, but also, when Hancock was put on to bowl, kept wicket "as one to the manner born." He certainly is a great acquisition to the none too numerous playing members of the Club. The following are the full scores and analyses:—

H.K.C.C.				
P. T. Lambie, b Toulmin	...	...	...	32
Lt. Rimington, S.F., c Punnett, b Carter	...	...	...	4
A. G. Ward (capt.), b Blair	...	...	...	21
J. T. Dixon, b Toulmin	...	...	...	9
H. Hancock, b Toulmin	...	...	...	15
A. C. E. Elborough, not out	...	...	...	45
Capt. Fawcett, R.A., b Blair	...	...	...	1
R. E. O. Bird, b Toulmin	...	...	...	4
J. Hooper, c Moore, b Mackinley	...	...	...	2
T. C. Gray, c Shelford, b Mackinley	...	...	...	0
J. A. Woodgates, b Toulmin	...	...	...	7
Extras	...	...	...	0
Total	...	...	...	148

THE NAVY.				
Lt. Allenby, R.N., b Dixon	...	...	...	3
R. B. Garde, R.N., c Gray, b Rimington	...	...	...	43
G. A. Cooke, R.N., c and b Dixon	...	...	...	6
G. Moore, R.N., c Elborough, b Dixon	...	...	...	52
A. D. Punnett, R.N., c and b Rimington	...	...	...	5
R. H. Carter, R.N., c Hancock, b Dixon	...	...	...	21
Sub-Lt. Blair, R.N., c Dixon, b Hancock	...	...	...	31
Lt. Goldsmith, R.N., b Dixon	...	...	...	0
Lt. Shelford, R.N., b Hancock	...	...	...	1
Lt. Toulmin, R.M.L.I., not out	...	...	...	1
A. W. Mackinley, R.N., c Ward, b Hancock	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	5
Total	...	...	...	179

BOWLING ANALYSES.				
H.K.C.C.				
Mackinley	O.	M.	R.	W.
Carter	8	2	37	2
Blair	7	2	20	1
Toulmin	12	1	51	2
Shelford	14.1	1	34	5
Extras	1	—	7	—
THE NAVY.				
J. T. Dixon	O.	M.	R.	W.
R. E. O. Bird	18	3	59	5
Elborough	7	1	16	—
Rimington	3	—	19	—
Fawcett	8	3	36	2
Hancock	4	—	28	—
Extras	3.5	2	7	3

CIVIL SERVICE v. R.A.M.C.

The following are the scores in the match Civil Service C.C. v. R.A.M.C., played at Happy Valley on the 7th inst.:

CIVIL SERVICE.				
Hutchins, b Cook	...	...	...	11
Witchell, c Duff, b Wilson	...	...	...	10
Brett, c Wilson, b Harvey	...	...	...	28
Woolley, b Cook	...	...	...	0
Connolly, b Cook	...	...	...	1
H. W. Gidley, c Lt. Harvey, b Cook	...	...	...	3
Brown, c Skinner, b Cook	...	...	...	0
Goldenberg, b Wilson	...	...	...	2
Wheat, b Cook	...	...	...	5
Knight, c Allwork, b Cook	...	...	...	0
S. N. Gidley, not out	...	...	...	4
Extras	...	...	...	2
Total	...	...	...	66

R.A.M.C.				
Lt. Harvey, b Brett	...	...	...	4
Staff-Serjt. Wilson, b Witchell	...	...	...	10
Pte. Woolley, b Brett	...	...	...	8
Pte. Cook, b Witchell	...	...	...	5
Lt. Craig, b Brett	...	...	...	5
S. M. Allwork, c Witchell, b Brett	...	...	...	0
Staff-Serjt. Senior, stumped	...	...	...	1
Pte. Duff, b Brett	...	...	...	4
Capt. Skinner, c Gidley, b Witchell	...	...	...	7
Pte. Chaffer, c Woolley, b Brett	...	...	...	0
Pte. Williams, not out	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	10
Total	...	...	...	54

CRAIGENGOWER v. R.A.M.C. H. A. LAMMERT'S ELEVEN.
The match between the Craigenpower Cricket Club and Mr. H. A. Lammert's Eleven was played at the Happy Valley on the 7th inst. The former won by 43 runs. Appended are the scores and analyses:—

H. A. LAMMERT'S ELEVEN.				
S. A. Seth, run out	...	...	...	7
Anstun, b Brown	...	...	...	0
H. A. Lammert, l.b.w., b Brown	...	...	...	1
H. S. Bevan, hit wicket, b Herton	...	...	...	1
W. Rose, c Kinnaird, b Brown	...	...	...	0
S. Moore, b Herton	...	...	...	2
F. W. White, c and b Brown	...	...	...	0
A. A. Remedios, run out	...	...	...	0
Grace, b Herton	...	...	...	4
Spofforth, c Stuart, b Brown	...	...	...	25
Millar, not out	...	...	...	3
Extras	...	...	...	5
Total	...	...	...	45

CRAIGENGOWER C.C.				
A. O. Brown, b Lammert	...	...	...	37
L. E. Lammert, b Rose	...	...	...	17
F. R. Herton, l.b.w., b Rose	...	...	...	7
J. D. Kinnaird, c and b White	...	...	...	0
R. Bass, b Rose	...	...	...	0
M. E. Asger, l.b.w., b White	...	...	...	2
L. A. Rose, b White	...	...	...	2
R. Pestonji, c Bevan, b Rose	...	...	...	9
J. P. Jordan, not out	...	...	...	0
J. L. Stuart, b Lammert	...	...	...	8
H. Jacobbi, b Rose	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	6
Total	...	...	...	88

BOWLING ANALYSES.				
CRAIGENGOWER C.C.				
W. Rose	O.	M.	R.	W.
White	10	2	28	5
H. A. Lammert	9	—	54	3
Extras	2	—	—	2
H. A. LAMMERT'S ELEVEN.				
Brown	O.	M.	R.	W.
Herton	6	—	30	6
Extras	5	2	10	4

R.A.M.C. C.C. v. H.M.S. "GOLIATH" C.C.
A match was played between the R.A.M.C. C.C. and the H.M.S. Goliath C.C. at Happy Valley on the 10th inst., which resulted in a win for the Medicals.

The scores are as follows:—

H.M.S. "GOLIATH."				
Mr. R. Harbottle, c Harvey, b Cook	...	...	...	1
Lt. Young, c Skinner, b Williams	...	...	...	21
Mr. Coleridge, b Cook	...	...	...	5
P. O. Fackrell, b Williams	...	...	...	0
Mr. McKurley, run out	...	...	...	9
Mr. Eldridge, c Skinner, b Cook	...	...	...	5
Lt. Harvey, b Williams	...	...	...	10
Lt. French, not out	...	...	...	5
Capt. Worthington, c Skinner, b Williams	...	...	...	2
Pte. Austin, b Cook	...	...	...	3
Mr. Shepherd, b Williams	...	...	...	2
Extras	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	64

R.A.M.C. C.C.				
Lt. Harvey, c Young, b Coleridge	...	...	...	6
Staff-Sgt. Wilson, c McKinley, b Coleridge	...	...	...	0
Pte. Woolley, c Austin, b Coleridge	...	...	...	14
Pte. Cook, c Harbottle, b Shepherd	...	...	...	41
Serjt. Riordan, b Coleridge	...	...	...	2
Lt. Craig, c Young, b Coleridge	...	...	...	1
S. M. Allwork, b Coleridge	...	...	...	7
Cpl. Skinner, b Shepherd	...	...	...	5
Serjt. Dearley, b Shepherd	...	...	...	2
Staff-Serjt. Senior, not out	...	...	...	11
Pte. Williams, c Fackrell, b Coleridge	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	8
Total	...	...	...	97

FOOTBALL.

H.K.F.C. v. H.M.S. "ARGONAUT."

The Shield committee having decided to postpone the semi-final tie between H.M.S.S. *Glory* and *Ocean* till the 14th inst., the Club was able to invite the finalists, H.M.S. *Argonaut*, to a friendly game on the 7th inst. The naval men were minus three of their Shield team—right wing and centre-half—but capable substitutes were forward. At 4.20 the teams lined up as follows:—

H.K.F.C.:—Hickling, goal; Bonnar and Austen, backs; Henderson, Kew, and Canfield, halves; Lemarchand, Rutherford, Cooper, Seth, and Davis, forwards.

H.M.S. *Argonaut*:—Robinson, goal; Taylor and Morrison, backs; Clissold, Taylor and Percy, halves; Brown, Ainsley, Gogie, Paton, and Callagan, forwards.

The Club won the toss, but decided to face a strong wind. The navy were the first to get into close quarters, and gained a corner, which Brown placed nicely. Rutherford, however, secured possession, and took the ball well down, but his parting shot was yards wide. Fancy play by the *Argonauts*' left wing was of small service to their side, and Austen cleared easily. A dangerous raid by the navy forced a corner off Kew, which, however, Callagan made a hash of. Lemarchand and Rutherford were playing splendidly together, and Percy and Morrison had as much as they could manage to keep them out of shooting distance. Though handicapped by the wind, the civilians there having more than a fair share of the game, we forwards combining nicely. Responding to an appeal from their supporters to "come away," the *Argonauts* attacked and Ainsley sent a hard, high shot into the corner of the goal, which Hickling cleared. Keeping up the pressure, the Shield finalists twice in quick succession had hard lines in not scoring. Hickling having to handle on both occasions. Bonnar was playing his usual hard game, his heading being perfect. The *Argonauts* at last were rewarded for their constant pressure. Austen miskicked into the far side of the goal, out of Hickling's reach, and Bonnar, making a plucky effort to stave off a score, headed through the goal, the ball striking the inside of the upright and falling into the net. All the game was now close in on the Club's goal, and three abortive corners fell to the navy. It looked odds on their increasing their lead, but half-time was called with the score:—

Argonaut, 1 goal; H.K.F.C., 0.

The second half opened in striking contrast to the conclusion of the first period, for quite ten minutes play being, to say the least, tame and uninteresting. Then the Club defence had an anxious time, but with the aid of a little luck kept the goal intact. A dangerous attack was brilliantly cleared by Austen, who was playing a reliable game. In running out to save, Hickling was impeded and though the ball was sent into the net, the foul nullified the point. Play at this period was mostly in favour of the naval men, who were showing first-class combination. The chance of the game fell to Cooper. Henderson centred right into Cooper's feet, but the centre lifted the ball high over the bar. The homesters at this stage were full value for a goal, but the forwards, though excellent in the open, failed sadly when it came to finish. Full-time arrived with the score:—

H.M.S. *Argonaut*, 1 goal; H.K.F.C., 0.

It is stated from Peking that the two Commissioners who are to represent the Chinese Government at the Osaka Exhibition next month, namely, Na Tung and Chen Ming-tso, have been given the munificent sum of Tls. 2,000 each "for expenses in Japan," which also includes passage money, etc., to and fro. According to the *N.-C. Daily News* the Commissioners also take with them a staff of some eighteen secretaries and *attachés*, who are to be given Tls. 1,000 each for expenses. It may also be stated here that several Viceroys and Governors of provinces are sending their own representatives who have been provided with funds more worthy of the occasion and as a means of further cementing the growing friendship existing between the people and officials of both Empires.

LADIES' RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL PRIZE MEETING.

The annual prize meeting of the Ladies' Rifle Association was held on March 3rd, 4th and 5th and the following are the results of the various competitions:—

75 YARDS SCRATCH.

First prize presented by Mrs. May, won by Mrs. Leigh, score 31.

Second prize presented by I.R.A., won by Mrs. May, score 29.

75 YARDS HANDICAP.

First prize presented by Sir Paul Chater, won by Mrs. Stephens, score 27+9.

Second prize presented by L.R.A., won by Mrs. Fullerton, score 28+7.

50 YARDS SCRATCH.

First prize presented by Mrs. Siebs, won by Mrs. Stephens, score 27.

Second prize presented by Hongkong Rifle Association, won by Mrs. Leigh, score 26.

50 YARDS HANDICAP.

First prize presented by J. R. M. Smith, Esq., won by Mrs. Tudor, score 26+12.

Second prize presented by L.R.A., won by Miss Siebs, score 23+12.

ENCOURAGEMENT CUP NO. 1.

First prize presented by Mrs. Stephens, won by Mrs. Dean, score 29.

Second prize presented by Mrs. Robertson, won by Mrs. Radcliffe, score 24+4.

ENCOURAGEMENT CUP NO. 2.

Prize presented by Mrs. Hastings and Miss Blake, won by Mrs. Baker Brown, score 26+8.

H.B. BANDS' PRIZE 50 YARDS HANDICAP. First won by Mrs. Pritchard, score 25+8.

Second won by Mrs. Wilcox, score 24+9.

CONSOLATION PRIZE 50 AND 75 YARDS HANDICAP.

Presented by Fung Wa Chun, Esq., won by Mrs. T. M. Wright, scores 21+5, 23+8.

WATER RETURN.

LEVEL AND STORAGE OF WATER IN RESERVOIRS ON THE 1ST MARCH.

	1902.	1903.
	Below overflow.	Below overflow.
Tytam	60 ft. 7 in.	29 ft. 6½ in.
Pokfulam	36 ft. 6 in.	38 ft. 2 in.
Wongneicheong	42 ft. 9½ in.	34 ft. 5 in.

	1902.	1903.
Tytam	54,690,000	181,235,000
Pokfulam	2,040,000	1,000,000
Wongneicheong	35,000	2,219,000

CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN THE CITY OF VICTORIA AND HILL DISTRICT DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY.

	1902.	1903.
Consumption ...	44,217,000	60,631,000 gallons
Estimated population	212,700	217,600.
Consumption per head per day	7.4	9.9 gallons

CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN KOWLOON PENINSULA DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY.

	1902.	1903.
Consumption ...	8,344,000	11,381,000 gallons
Estimated population	54,700	60,500
Consumption per head per day	5.4	6.7 gallons

The Government Analyst reports that the water is of excellent quality.

W. CHATHAM
Water Authority.

A correspondent writing to the *N.-C. Daily News* with reference to the recommendation by Dr. Hogg of kerosene oil for the extermination of mosquitoes says:—"Last summer I went on board a kerosene ship; I noticed all the crew had marks of mosquito-bites on them. Soon the mosquitoes will be back, and I would like some scientific man to visit the vessels at the kerosene oil godowns, and see the men who work at kerosene cargo, and actually breathe and stink of kerosene, how they suffer from mosquitoes. Mosquitoes thrive on oil."

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

CAPTAIN'S CUP AND SILVER MEDAL FOR MARCH.

The following cards were returned:—

Mr. G. Stewart ...	85	—	4	=	81
Major Taylor ...	95	—	11	=	84
Capt. Phillips ...	95	—	10	=	85
Mr. C. W. May ...	93	—	6	=	87
Mr. A. B. Lowson ...	93	—	6	=	87
Mr. J. Johnstone ...	93	—	5	=	88
Mr. A. Boyd ...	108	—	18	=	90
Mr. H. J. Gedge ...	112	—	18	=	94

33 entries.

POOL.

Mr. W. L. Martin ...	93	—	14	=	79
Mr. G. Stewart ...	85	—	4	=	81
Lient. D. C. H. Dalrymple ...	94	—	13	=	81
Mr. C. G. Matthew ...	99	—	18	=	81
Capt. Henderson ...	94	—	11	=	83
Capt. Phillips ...	95	—	10	=	85
Mr. C. W. May ...	93	—	6	=	87
Mr. A. B. Lowson ...	93	—	6	=	87
Mr. J. Johnstone ...	93	—	5	=	88

31 entries.

THE CRISIS IN KWANGSI.

The local mandarins, the *N.-C. Daily News* reports, have received news from the south of the capture by rebels of the prefectural city of Linchou, not far from Kueilin, the provincial capital of Kwangsi, in consequence of which the situation of the last-named city is now very serious, there being not quite 5,000 men holding the place. The loyalty of these troops, even, is suspected, and it is thought that the moment the rebel forces appear in strength before the provincial capital the garrison will hand it immediately over to the rebels, who intend to make Kueilin the capital of the Chinese dynasty. What the leaders of the rebellion really want, however, is some support, so as to have the means of easy communication with their friends outside. Once Kueilin is captured and they have a regular base to work from in extending the rebellion to other provinces we may expect them to make a decided effort in capturing some important city on the sea coast. Whilst people in the provinces receive authentic news of the numerous successes of the rebels whose operations have extended even into Hunan province and whose partisans are constantly increasing in Yunnan, Kueihou, Szechuen, and Kwangtung provinces, the powers that be in Peking are being fed with telegrams from Kwangsi officials reporting "glorious victories" over the rebels. So infatuated has the Central Government in the capital become on this account that they refuse to believe contrary accounts from high officials in the vicinity of Kwangsi province who are independent of those in the latter province. It is stated that one high official in Kueihou writing to the Grand Council concerning the large quantities of magazine rifles and ammunition in the hands of the Kwangsi rebels declared his suspicions that some foreign Government was secretly assisting the movement; to this the Council replied that as China was in the closest friendship (sic) with all the Powers it was absurd to entertain such suspicions. The high official in question then denounced Governor Wang Chih-chun as unequal to deal with the situation and recommended either Chang Chih-tung or Wei Kuang-tao as Commander-in-chief over all the forces operating against the rebels, at the same time suggesting that the troops of the Yun-Kuei provinces be ordered to combine with the Two Kwang forces. The Grand Council pooh-poohed this also and replied that Governor Wang Chih-chun was quite capable of deal with the situation with the troops he now has under him in Kwangsi. As proof of this Governor Wang's telegrams announcing successive victories over the rebels were copied and transmitted to the high official above noted.

Dr. Stanley, the Medical Officer of Health at Shanghai, in his annual report estimates that there are 5,000 consumptives in Shanghai and urges the necessity for interdicting expectoration in the streets. The majority of these consumptives, the doctor says, individually expectorate daily millions of deadly tubercle bacilli.

CHANG CHIH-TUNG.

Chang Chih-tung, Acting Viceroy of the Liangkang Provinces and substantial Viceroy of the Hukwang Provinces, etc., has memorialised the Throne as follows:—

Since your humble subject entered into the official service he has had the honour of having his first and only audience at the time when he was Governor of Shansi in 1884, having been ordered to proceed to Peking to listen to the Imperial instructions, being thence appointed Viceroy of the Liangkang Provinces. When removed to the Hukwang he was relieved from going up to Peking to receive the Imperial instructions. But on the 24th day of the 9th moon of 1894 and again in the third moon of 1898 he was ordered to proceed to Peking to have Imperial audience. However, on the former occasion having meantime been appointed acting Viceroy of Liangkang, he was relieved from doing so, and then on the latter occasion after arriving at Shanghai he was ordered to go back to his post. So on to 1901, in the eighth moon, when the Imperial cortege was at Kaifeng-fu he again applied for audience. His request was not granted and on the 11th day of 12th moon in 1901 Lin Kung-yi was ordered to proceed to Peking to have Imperial audience by telegraphic order and upon Viceroy Lin's return to Nanking your memorialist was commanded to proceed to Peking. But on the 15th day another decree from the Empress Dowager was received saying that until treaty revision was completed your memorialist should postpone proceeding to Peking. Thus again another year has since elapsed during all of which time his eyes have been turned towards Metropolitan sky with longing for Imperial audience. The new Viceroy Wei Kwang-tao, of Liangkang, will arrive at Nanking sometime in the 2nd moon (March) and will take over his seal, and your memorialist will be then relieved from the acting viceroyship and will have leave. Accordingly at this period he desires to proceed north to have the honour of meeting Your Majesty, with whom he has longed to have audience for the last twenty years. Your memorialist should like to personally state the circumstances of the new Commercial Treaty which was recently negotiated, and also to discuss reforms in education, military training, and other important State affairs in detail, etc." The above memorial was duly sanctioned with "vermillion" pencil on the 26th ult. and the Viceroy was ordered to proceed to Peking for audience.

From excellent sources we learn, the *China Gazette* says, that Chang Chih-tung's great desire at present is to be appointed President of the Wai Wu-pu (Board of Foreign Affairs) and it is probable that he will attain his desire. We are at a loss to understand what the London *Globe* meant by speaking of Chang Chih-tung's "degradation" which was referred to in a London telegram the other day. He is in high favour or he would not be so anxious to go up to Peking, when the expense of such a journey must be a serious consideration to such a poor man as the great Chang, to his credit, is to-day.

THE EMPRESS DOWAGER'S
TEA PARTIES.

Writing on the 25th ult. the Peking correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* says:—

To-day there is the third of the series of entertainments or social interchanges between the ladies of the Legations in Peking and the ladies of the Palace. The first was the function at the palace given by invitation of the Empress Dowager. About forty ladies were invited and as this was the second or third time most of the ladies had seen Her Majesty the greetings were quite cordial. Mrs. Conger and Mrs. Uchida had long and interesting conversations with the Empress Dowager and the other ladies mingled together in most pleasant relations. They were all greatly assisted by Miss Kuang who speaks German and English, as well as her native tongue, and is a most accomplished lady. While refreshments were being served in the dining hall one of the ladies observed a beautiful yellow bowl from which the Empress Dowager was taking fruit. She desired one

like it and requested one of the ladies acting as interpreter to ask the bowl from the Empress Dowager as a present. As it had been arranged by direct request of the foreign ladies that no presents were to be given or received, the interpreter naturally thought the request most extraordinary and declined to mention the subject to the Empress. But the legation lady was not to be headed off that way, so the services of the English-speaking Chinese lady were secured and the request was presented. The Empress Dowager was somewhat surprised and remarked that she was not aware that presents were wanted but if the lady desired this bowl she could have it. So the Empress Dowager sent out and had two bowls of the same quality brought and presented to the lady. Observers were impressed at this strange behaviour. The Chinese are wondering if that is the custom in foreign society.

A return invitation was given by Mrs. Conger and was accepted by the Imperial Princesses who went to the American Legation To-day at the home of the Imperial Princess, the adopted daughter of the Empress Dowager, the foreign ladies are again entertained.

There are other indications that the ladies of high rank in Peking are most pleased to hold these social relations with the foreign ladies. They accept invitations not only to the legations but to the homes of missionaries and are delighted at this introduction to what is more or less a new life to them.

HONGKONG AND MANILA TRADE.

The following article is taken from the *Manila Cablenews*:—

Arrangements have been made by the local the Canadian Pacific Railway Coagents of, (Smith, Bell and Co) and the China and Manila Steamship Co., Ltd. (Warner, Barnes & Co., Ltd.) to run a new passenger service between Manila and Hongkong in connection with the well-known Empress line. The *Rubi* and *Zafiro*, the two latest and most modern steamers on the Hongkong and Manila run, do not need a description here; their merits, speed and their comfort are well known; they are the only steamers regularly on the run which have accommodation amidships and they are of modern construction and compare favourably with ocean liners in any part of the world. These steamers in future will leave Manila every Friday in order to connect with the Empress line; and intending passengers to Canada, the United States and Europe have now unrivalled opportunities for a comfortable and luxurious sea voyage from Manila to Vancouver. The discomforts of the China Sea are avoided as the new service is a speedy one and the *Rubi* and *Zafiro* only keep their passengers on the China Sea for two nights; thus much of the inconvenience in crossing the China Sea is avoided. Every arrangement has been made for the comfort of passengers in Hongkong and for their speedy transfer from the *Rubi* and *Zafiro* to their hotel where passengers may stay for three days before the departure of the Empress boats and have the opportunity of visiting and seeing the sights of the wonderful towns of Hongkong, Canton and Macao. A regular service is everything, and we recommend all travellers who intend to visit or who are returning to the United States, Canada or Europe to purchase a through ticket from either of the above mentioned firms. Mr. H. B. Darnell, the Eastern Travelling Agent of the Canadian Pacific Railway Co., is expected very shortly in Manila from Japan and he brings with him details of arrangements which have been completed for summer tours to China, Japan and Canada and the United States, and he will be welcomed as a boon by those desirous of getting away from the heat during our trying summer.

The advance in the price of silver in the face of sixty which is being advocated in the Straits, the Philippines and China induces a Singapore writer to suggest that possibly the action of the American President to prop up silver is stimulating bull operations. Therefore he says:—"Let us take advantage of it and fix the highest possible ratio in the meanwhile. After that the bulls and bears will have no terror for us."

HONGKONG.

At the last meeting of the Union Church Literary Club, Mr. W. O. Sims read a paper on "John Ruskin." An interesting debate followed.

The entries for the Oxford Local Examinations have now closed. Eighty-nine fees have been paid, there being 18 senior, 38 junior, and 35 preliminary candidates. Four of the last are girls.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending 7th March, were 333 non-Chinese and 104 Chinese to the former, and 62 non-Chinese and 3,675 Chinese to the latter institution.

The names of the following gentlemen have been added to the list of non-official Justices of the Peace:—Messrs. Anthony Babington, Chau Sui-ki, T. H. Cochrane, W. A. Cruickshank, W. H. T. Davis, H. E. R. Hunter, Lau Chu-pak, G. C. Moxon, H. Pinckney, H. E. Pollock, K.C., Ahmet Ramjshu, A. H. Skelton, Wei Wa-leen, Wong Kam-suk, R. T. Wright.

On the 9th inst. three lots of Crown land were sold at the offices of the P.W.D. New Kowloon lot No. 1, the first lot in the New Territory to be put up to auction, was bid for at \$1,000 to start with, and was knocked down to Mr. A. Denison of Messrs. Denison, Raim and Gibbs at \$1,620. Lot No. 1,679, Bowen Road, was bought by Messrs. Palmer and Turner for \$520. Inland lot No. 1,680, Causeway Bay, was bought by Chinese for \$1,845.

The following returns of the average amount of bank-notes in circulation and of specie in reserve during February, as certified by the managers of the respective banks, appear in the *Gazette*:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	3,577,713	1,650,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	14,022,233	7,500,000
National Bank of China, Limited	444,714	150,000
Total	\$17,044,650	\$9,300,000

During the night on the 7th inst. the premises of the Victoria Hair Dressing Saloon, situated on the ground floor of Connaught House, were broken into by thieves, and goods, consisting of razors, umbrellas, perfumery, meerschaum pipes and cigar holders, to the value of about \$1,000 stolen. It appears that the burglars broke open the side door in the lane leading to the Daily Press office, and thus entered the stores. The police have the matter in hand, and it is to be hoped that they will speedily be able to capture the thieves and trace the missing property.

About 2 p.m. on the 11th inst. Sergeants Kerr and Bevet observed smoke issuing from a house at 326, Des Voeux Road West occupied as a store by Messrs. Wo Sing & Co., dealers in matting. They at once gave the alarm and before many minutes the Fire Brigade were on the scene under Mr. A. Mackie, Chief Inspector, and Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse, Assistant Superintendent, and soon three hoses were playing upon the flames. So strenuously did the Brigade exert themselves that they managed to extinguish the conflagration before it had spread farther than the kitchen. This apartment was gutted and some large bundles of matting were destroyed. The damage is not serious and is said to be insured with Messrs. Siemssen and Renter, Brockelmann. P. C. Shepherd had a narrow escape from injury by falling debris.

Seven Chinamen were brought up on remand at the Police Court on the 7th inst. charged with stealing from a native trader and a married countrywoman money and clothing to the value of \$3,914 on the 20th ult. All the parties arrived from Singapore on that day, and when the complainants got ashore and began to look out their baggage they found to their dismay that the box in which the money and clothing were locked was missing. The police were communicated with, and the box was traced to a Chinese boarding-house, where, in a room occupied by eight men, seven of them the defendants, it was found broken open and rifled of its contents. The men, in whose possession most, if not all, of the money and goods were found, were arrested and charged, but for want of direct evidence the case against them failed and they were acquitted.

H.E. the Governor has re-appointed Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe Registrar of the Land Court. The official announcement of the appointment of Mr. L. A. M. Johnston as Postmaster appears in the *Government Gazette*.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that the King's exequatur empowering Mr. Edward S. Bragg to act as Consul-General of the United States at Hongkong has received His Majesty's signature.

H.E. the Governor has appointed Dr. J. M. Atkinson, president, Hon. W. Chatham vice-president, and Colonel W. E. Webb, R.A.M.C., Messrs. E. Osborne, Fung Wa Chun and Lau Chu Pak members of the Sanitary Board.

A truck loaded with iron overpowered the five coolies in charge of it in Staunton Street, on the 10th inst. and dashed into a house, the wall of which it smashed. No one, fortunately, was injured. The coolies avoided arrest by running away and leaving the truck where it lay.

Dr. Hall Wright, a very popular medico on one of the C. P. R. liners, has given up the sea to practice in Hongkong. He was presented with a very handsome silver bowl by his former captain and fellow officers of the *Empress of Japan*, before the vessel left on the 11th inst.

The police reported on the 11th inst. that a Japanese member of the crew of the steamer *Diamante* has succumbed in the Government Civil Hospital to injuries caused by an accidental blow from some heavy tackle which was being swung aboard the steamer from a lighter.

On the 10th inst. a native shopkeeper in Bonham Strand fell into the harbour off the Winglok Street wharf, and was rescued in an unconscious state by a Chinese excise officer, Indian P.C. 581, and a Chinese boatman. He was removed for treatment to the Government Civil Hospital.

The Medical Officer of Health's weekly return of cases of communicable diseases notified in the Colony during the week ended March 7th shows 19 cases of plague, 17 being fatal. Sixteen cases occurred in the City of Victoria and three in the outside districts. No case of cholera was reported, only one of diphtheria, two European cases of scarlet fever, and one Chinese case of smallpox.

The following list of authorised architects, prepared under Section 7 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, No. 1 of 1903, by His Excellency the Governor in Council, is published in the *Gazette*:—James Fettes Boulton, William Chatham, William Danby, Albert Denison, Henry George Corral Fisher, Lawrence Gibbs, Bernard Brotherton Harker, Ernest Manning Hazeland, Augustus Shelton Hooper, Robert Kennaway Leigh, John Lemm, James Orange, Clement Palmer, Edward Albert Ram, Engenio Francisco Xavier dos Santos Imedica, Hugh Pollock Tooker, Arthur Turner, Charles Warren, Wong Kat Sou, and Wong A Cheong.

It was reported on the 10th inst. that on the previous night the shop in Caine Road near the Italian Convent, occupied by Mrs. Carvalho as a ladies' and children's supply store, had been broken into by burglars and goods to the value of about \$500 stolen. The burglars were apparently well acquainted with the place, for as it happened the proprietress had just received a consignment of new goods. Of the most valuable of these the robbers made a selection to carry away with them. Some of the goods were hidden in a refuse basket and were afterwards discovered there by the police. The burglars managed to carry off a large portion of the loot.

At the Harbour Office on the 10th inst. before Commander R. Murray Rumsey, R.N.R., Harbour master, F. McIntosh, first mate of the British ship *Howard D. Troop*, was charged with having assaulted William Macdonald, A.B., on the high seas. He pleaded not guilty. Complainant stated in evidence that he was shipped at New York in October. On 9th November while he was at work the defendant came up to him, swore at him and struck him. James Morris, A.B., gave corroborative evidence. Hans Olsen, A.B., deposed that he saw the mate shake but not punch the complainant. The defendant stated that Macdonald gave him insolence and that he shook his fist in his face; he did not strike him. The case was dismissed, the Magistrate not being satisfied that an assault had been committed.

On the 8th inst. the U.S. cruiser *New Orleans* arrived from Saigon, and yesterday the British aloop *Phoenix* from Swatow.

H.M.S.S. *Amphitrite*, *Pique*, and *Rambler* left for practice on the 9th inst.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The N.Y.K. steamer *Hitachi Maru* brought out from London gold bars of the value of £150,000 for the Far East.

The recorded foreign death-rate in Shanghai last year was 18.1 per 1,000. The rate for England and Wales in 1901 was 16.9.

The French-owned steamer *Pingthun*, belonging to a Saigon firm, which left Hongkong recently bound for Saigon, ran ashore, the other day, at the north end of Capearella, a dangerous coast exposed to the north-east winds and sea. She had \$200,000 worth of treasure aboard.

The steamer *Brutus* of the Compagnia Maritima, Manila, has been docked by S. C. Farnham, Boyd and Co., Ltd., to undergo extensive repairs and renewals. The *N.-C. Daily News* is informed that this is the third steamer the Compagnia Maritima have sent to Shanghai, and others are expected shortly.

On the authority of the Shanghai Municipal Report, we learn that the continued advance in rentals has been productive of increased activity on the part of foreign house-builders. "The demand for house accommodation is at the present moment fully supplied, more especially in the case of houses of ordinary size, and the rentals charged may now be considered to have reached their full value." Can as much be said of Hongkong?

At the Police Court, Shanghai, on the 6th inst., Messrs. W. G. Bayne, Robert Carr, El B. Skottowe, James Mann, G. C. F. Holland, and W. R. Parkin were charged with having failed to register in the year 1903 as British subjects and not having excused such failure, in accordance with section 114 of the China and Japan Order in Council, 1865. The summonses against Messrs. Bayne, Holland, Skottowe, and Carr were withdrawn. Mr. Mann was fined \$2 and costs, and Mr. Parkin \$5 and costs.

With reference to the power of certain plants to drive away mosquitoes, a correspondent in *Nature* gives some interesting particulars. Between his house near Canton and the river stretched a line of papaw-trees, and he noticed that it enjoyed a singular immunity from mosquitoes, which was not shared by the houses near. He stated that though he had them frequently under observation, he never saw one of these trees with a mosquito upon it, and he is inclined to attribute the fact to the proteolytic action of the juice they secrete.

Mr. K. Sumitomo, the "Copper King" of Japan and the proprietor of the Sumitomo Bank, is providing the City of Osaka with a free library. There are about forty free libraries in Japan, the *Kobe Chronicle* states, but they are mostly of small dimensions. The one which is now being built at the expense of Mr. Sumitomo is described as a huge building. Mr. Sumitomo offered to provide 150,000 yen for the building and 50,000 yen towards the purchase of books. The City authorities provided the site of the building and have agreed to contribute 15,000 yen towards the book fund before taking over the building and to provide at least 10,000 yen a year for ten years towards maintenance and general management.

A Tacoma correspondent writes:—The Asiatic freight bureau, comprising six trans-Pacific steamship lines, running out of Tacoma, Seattle, Portland and Vancouver, has raised the freight rates on flour to Shanghai 50 cents a ton. Formerly exporters paid \$5 a ton on sack shipments, while hereafter the rate will be \$5.50. The old rate paid, \$5 a ton on flour in barrels, will remain. The new rate became effective on February 1st and will be charged by the Northern Pacific, China Mutual, Portland and Asiatic, Canadian Pacific, Nippon Yusen Kaisha and Boston Steamship companies. Local flour exporters said that the price of flour in the Orient will be raised shortly to cover the increased cost of transportation. They believe that the new rate to Shanghai is experimental with the object of soon extending it to all ports between Vladivostok and Hongkong. If successful it is believed that a general increase in trans-Pacific rates will result, affecting all exports from this country. The flour manufacturers point out that little harm will ensue under present conditions, unless shippers from the Black Sea should obtain a reduced rate, in which event they could obtain the flour business now coming to this coast.

The Emperor of China sent a telegram of condolence to the Emperor of Japan couched in most sympathetic terms in reference to the death of Prince Komatsu.

As a contribution to the Currency Question, a correspondent in a Singapore contemporary observes:—"White is a sign of mourning amongst the Chinese: silver is white. It is therefore surprising that some of them have an undying predilection for it."

The marriage of Mr. G. W. Pearson, of H.B.M. Consulate at Foochow to Miss MacKinnon, sister of a former assistant, was celebrated at H.B.M. Consul's residence on the 24th ult. in the presence of a brilliant assembly of guests. Most of the Foochow community were there, says the *Echo*, and, in addition, a number of Chinese officials, who took a keen interest in the fortunes of the popular bridegroom.

It is reported in local mandarin circles, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, that on Friday the Chinese authorities having received information that several hundred cases of breech-loading rifles and accompanying ammunition had been surreptitiously conveyed to a native-owned house, called Tai T'eng-ch'uan "Tsan," or ferry, on the Pootung side of the river, a raid was made on the place the same day by a body of Chinese "braves" who seized the contraband without trouble. An employee of the godown was arrested at the same time, but the owner, Tai T'eng-ch'uan, managed to escape. Besides the arms and ammunition, two uniforms with the cognisance of Marshal Su, now Provincial Commander-in-Chief of Kwangsi, were also found by the officials. This would lead one to suppose that the arms were meant for the Kwangsi rebels under the guise of having been ordered from this province for the use of Marshal Su's army.

The following is from a San Francisco paper dated February 3rd:—Among the arrivals at the Palace are two Chinamen, Hok Fong and Kam Ming, president and vice-president of the China Commercial Steamship Company. They have been East to Washington and from there to Mexico making final arrangements for the new Oriental steamship line which is shortly to be inaugurated. President Hok Fong said yesterday that the first steamer of this line would leave Hongkong on March 27, calling at Shanghai, Yokohama, Honolulu and Manzanillo, Mexico. On the return trip the steamer would call at San Francisco and thence direct to Yokohama. The president of the company considers there is a large field in Mexico for Chinese labour in the mines, railroads and plantations, and that the steamship company of which he is president will carry on a big business between China and Mexico transporting coolies to Mexico. J. S. Van Buren, general manager of the new steamship company, has been in this city for several weeks negotiating in Europe for the chartering of several vessels for the use of the steamship line.

The German Colonial Office, the Berlin correspondent of the *London Daily Chronicle* reports, has presented the Reichstag with a highly coloured report of the progress which is being made at Kiaochau. According to this report the Government entertain the most optimistic views regarding the future of this "place in the sun." In five years the railway has been completed from Tientsin to the nearest coalfields in the hinterland, and the first trains with coals have arrived at the coast. The official report does not express itself very enthusiastically about the quality of these coals. It says only that they are better than Japanese coals, with greater heating power and less smoke. Trade is rapidly developing. A silk factory has been established, deep-sea fisheries have been begun, and a steamboat built wholly in the colony has been launched. The sanitation is also improving, and disease of an endemic nature disappearing. Tientsin begins to be visited by sea bathers, and the report looks forward to the time when large numbers of visitors will flock to the colony as a seaside resort. Then as to building, the laying-out of streets, and the construction of docks, the report mentions that striking progress has been made. In a short time the new mole will be ready, when large ocean steamers will be able to load cargoes of coal. The planting of forest and fruit trees is being energetically pursued, and a Chamber of Commerce has been established.

Count von Bülow, the German Imperial Chancellor, in a recent debate in the Reichstag on German policy, denied that he had ever trod the paths of adventure, and added:—"We have come out of the China affair with full honours, with undiminished strength, and with complete recognition of the equality of our commercial rights as against other States."

We learn from a correspondent at Macao that a foreigner has recently been severely assaulted by Portuguese soldiers. Our correspondent points out that this is not the first case of the kind, and that the circumstances call for thorough investigation on the part of the authorities. With reference to the reported wounding of a foreigner at Macao by a Portuguese soldier, the following particulars of the affair have reached us. It appears that an American tidewater and a Portuguese soldier, both under the influence of liquor, quarrelled and fought. The soldier is said to have been bitten, losing a piece of his lip, and the American was thrown into the water, but was rescued. Both combatants have been charged and will be dealt with at the Magistracy.

"D.Z.S." sends the following interesting note from Lungchow to the *Peking and Tientsin Times*:—"A medal has just been received from the British Government given to Li Chin Fang, a student of the North China College, who was one of the first of the Chinese messengers who bravely took their lives in their hands at the time of the Siege of Peking to carry information to the outside world. When volunteers were called for to undertake this perilous work young Li presented himself, to the great surprise of his friends. The special ground of the surprise was the fact that he was a serious invalid, suffering from tuberculosis, from which disease he has quite recently died. He urged that his life was worth but little, and he was glad to risk it for the help that might be brought to the beleaguered foreigners and native Christians. His message from Sir Robert Hart was delivered in Tientsin just after the capture of the city by the Allies. He carried return messages to Peking, but after seeking without success for three days to pass the Chinese lines and reach the Legation, he returned to Tientsin, taking careful note of the location of camps of soldiers, military equipments, fortifications, and the like. His report was highly valued, and he rendered yet further important service by accompanying the Allies to give his knowledge of places and conditions. Mr. Li occupied the first place among the students of the North China College for ability, scholarship, and general force of character."

In the Admiralty Division of the High Court on 3rd ult. an action was brought by the owners of the steamship *Glenfarg* to recover the damage sustained by them through a collision which occurred at about 7.15 p.m. on Christmas Day last in the North Sea off the North Foreland between their vessel and the defendant's barque *Asia*. The main question in the case was whether the lights of the *Asia* were properly exhibited. The crew of the *Glenfarg*, with the exception of the officers, engineers, and quartermasters, consisted solely of Chinamen, and in the course of the case one of these, who had been on the look-out, was called as a witness. Much interest was aroused by his being sworn in the Chinese fashion. Mr. Justice Bucknill, after stating the facts, said there would be a decree of both to blame. A second action was brought by the owners, masters, and crew of the steamship *Glenfarg* and the steam tug *Aid* to recover salvage for services rendered to the *Asia*, her cargo, and freight, off the mouth of the river Thames on December 25, 26, and 27, 1902, after the *Asia* had been in collision with the *Glenfarg*. The defendants denied that salvage services were rendered by either the *Glenfarg* or the *Aid*. The value of the *Glenfarg* was £32,000, of her cargo £15,871, of her freight £3,147. The value of the *Aid* was £13,000. The value of the *Asia* was £1,000, and of her cargo and freight £5,627. Mr. Justice Bucknill awarded the *Asia* the sum of £75, and awarded the *Glenfarg* £250, but said judgment would not be entered for the latter amount unless notice of appeal in the previous case was lodged and the appeal prosecuted in ordinary course. If the appeal succeeded there would be judgment for the *Glenfarg* for £250; if it did not succeed she was entitled to nothing.

The Bombay Port Trust has prepared a scheme, subject to sanction by the Government, for constructing a great new dock with a water area of close upon fifty acres. The site will be between the Ballard Pier and the present docks. The dock will have a depth on the sill of 33½ feet at high water ordinary neap tides. The entrance will be through gates convertible into a lock 600 feet long. There will be a dry dock from 800 to 850 feet in length. The scheme includes a deep water dockhead pier, 1,250 feet long, where the mail steamers will be able to moor, and passengers will be able to step into the railway train. Ballard Pier will be trebled in length and connected with the dockhead pier, and the water space inside the angle of the two piers will be reclaimed, and used as site for a bulk-oil installation. The cost of the scheme, exclusive of a railway to the dockhead pier, is roughly estimated at three crores of rupees. It is expected that it will be carried out without any additional charges upon the trade of the port.

The Government of French Indo-China, remarks the *Bangkok Times*, has done away with the considerable tax that used to be imposed on Chinese immigrants, and has substituted for it an emigrant tax on the Chinese returning to China. Immigration has as a result largely increased, and the tax has the advantage of being imposed at the time it can be best afforded, while French Indo-China not only gets its labourers, but also makes them a direct source of revenue. In the Straits there are no special taxes on the Chinese; they pay the same taxes as other residents. Siam adopts a method of her own in dealing with the Chinese, which has very few advantages and many disadvantages. A special tax is imposed, which, however, frees the Chinese from taxes paid by Siamese. They make a deal of fuss over this special tax; it is costly to collect, and the net result is miserably small. The wisdom of any special tax is doubtful, but it is impossible to see any reason why the Chinese should not be subject to the same taxation as Siamese similarly circumstanced.

The new American Pacific cable is to be the means of a better telegraphic traffic between Europe and the countries of the Far East and South-East. Menado, in Celebes, is to be joined with the new American cable, which comes from the west coast of North America via Palau to the Philippines. With that cable also a connection with Shanghai is projected. The rapid development of German interests in the western part of the Pacific demands also the development of cable communications, especially as at present a part of Germany's possessions in the South Sea is still without regular steamer traffic. Only Kiaochau has been joined with the large world's cable network, and from Tsingtau now also a cable to Nagasaki is projected, so that a junction will be created with the British cable to Europe as well as with the land-lines of the Great Northern Danish-Russian Company. From East Asia then a cable-line is to go to Dutch East Asia, and the clue of the whole matter is to be the line via America to Europe, which also is to go via the Navigators' and Fiji Islands.

A few days ago, says the *Manila Cable News*, the Civil Governor received a cable message from the Secretary of War asking information as to whether the markets in Manila have changed materially since the date of the last report made by the Commission. In order to answer the question asked by the Secretary of War, the Governor called a meeting of the directors of the various banks, commercial houses and factories, to get their opinions. The last report of the Commission was made in the month of November last. When the business element of Manila was called upon to express their opinion there was not one who did not say that the markets were now much worse than in November. The tobacco has fallen in price for want of buyers. Sugar is scarce on account of the poor crops and hence importations of other goods are much less. The hemp crop is also very small for want of transportation. These being the principal products of the islands, their scarcity leaves the people without the money to buy numerous articles which they would otherwise purchase, and hence the importers are not doing the business of former months. There is a hope that the answer sent to the cable message will have a salutary effect on the tariff legislation for the islands.

Twenty-three men have deserted from the U.S.S. *Annapolis*, now at Cavite. A reward of twenty dollars for each man returned to the ship was offered.

A Newchwang correspondent says the whole Province is in that state of unrest which originated with the building of the Chinese Eastern Railway, reached its culmination in 1900, and is unlikely to subside for more years than constitute the average length of life as computed by statisticians.

A London telegram to the *N.-G. Daily News*, dated 5th inst., states:—"The U. S. Congress has adjourned after passing the naval votes agreed upon at a conference of the House of Representatives and the Senate, amounting to \$81,817,000, and including a grant for the construction of five battleships, but no cruisers."

A Russian with several aliases who, assuming the title of "Count" and pretending to be empowered by the Russian Government to appoint Consular agents, recently victimised foreigners—chiefly missionaries—in several parts of Japan, has been found guilty of obtaining money by false pretences, and has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment, fined 6 yen, and condemned to police surveillance for six months after leaving the prison and to pay the costs of the proceedings.

Commenting upon a Shanghai telegram announcing that Sir Robert Hart, the Chief Commissioner of the Chinese Customs, will shortly retire from his post, and that a body, to be called the International Customs Council, will be organised to take over control, the *Jiji* (published in Tokyo) urges that Japan, which has the closest trade connection with China next to Great Britain, should make strenuous efforts to secure the appointment of Japanese members on the foreign staff of the Chinese Customs, and that Japan should not be content, as at present, with a few Japanese occupying positions as second-class Assistant Commissioners and other similar subordinate posts.

It was the Mikado that Mr. W. S. Gilbert credited with a wish to make the punishment fit the crime or the criminal, but it is only in China, remarks the *London Daily Chronicle*, that this principle is noted upon. A brickmaker in Hunan was just lately fined 200 bricks, with the alternative of being beaten and "handed over to a mandarin." He chose the bricks. The idea, our contemporary adds, is a good one, and might find some useful employment in England. If there were a court, for instance, that could compel Lord Lansdowne to devote the next five years or so to writing an essay on "German Diplomacy in its Relation to British and American Interests," how much more comfortable we should all feel. In the same way "Colonel" Lytton might have been most profitably set to work on compiling "A History of Treason: Showing its Diabolical Nefariousness."

The *Shanghai Mercury's* correspondent at Changteh, Hunan, writing on the 13th ult. says:—"Indications are getting rather frequent that Changteh is in the mind of steamship companies as an objective point of the trade of western Hunan and the whole of Kueichow. Further evidence to this fact has been furnished by the recent visit of Captain W. Smith, representing Butterfield and Swire, to this city. A very few words may serve to tell the story of Changteh's connection with the outside world by means of steam. The first boat propelled by steam to this city was the British gunboat *Woodlark*, which made the trip in the summer of 1899. In 1901 the *Woodlark* paid a second visit, and at the same time also two Chinese companies began running launches from this capital to this place, but for some reason these were discontinued after several months. The Anglo-French Mining Company, of Kueichow province, has two launches which have made a number of trips since 1901, they being run from Shansi. Last year the British gunboat *Saipa* and the German *Vorwärts* were both here, the *Saipa* making two trips. This is in brief the history of steam navigation up the Yuen River. The trade of this section is quite well known to the various steamship companies, and once a waterway for the greater part of the year is found, they will be quick to start steamers in this direction. The object of Captain Smith's trip was to ascertain if a passage could be found for light-draft steamers at this season of the year."

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 27th February.—Re-reels.—Supply of current season remains exhausted. Contracts have been offered in New Silk, 1st, 2nd and 3rd Crops, at \$880 average for Nos. 1 and 2 without attracting buyers. Filatures.—During the earlier part of the fortnight prices continued to weaken off from the level of our last quotations and, on the lower basis, considerably more animation has appeared in the enquiry for Europe. Prices close somewhat irregular, with more firmness in certain quarters according to the individual disposition of reelers. Latest sales include: Yu King Lun 9/11 at \$1,075, Kum Sing Lun 10/12 at \$1,065/1,070, Yut Cheong Wo 10/12 at \$1,045, Wong Yuk Chan 10/12 at \$1,030, Miu King Lun 11/13 at \$1,085/1,090, Chee Chung Wo 11/13 at \$1,050, Kwong Lum Hing 11/13 at \$1,020, Kum Lun Tai 13/15 at 1,045/1,050, Kai Sun Cheong 13/15 at \$1,020, Kwong Ho and Jik Hing Cheong 13/15 at \$1,000, King Shing's Gold Lion 16/18 at \$99, Wai King Wo 18/22 at \$925. Best 3e Order is practically out of stock. A few small lots have sold at \$885 in 13/15 and \$865 in 14/18. Short-reels.—The enquiry for America alluded to in our last has quite died away. Purchasers aim at considerably lower rates which holders refuse to concede, and business has remained at a standstill. Waste.—The country markets are quoted easier. There are now sellers of Steam Extra Selected opened at \$150, on which basis some transactions are reported.

CAMPOR.

HONGKONG, 13th March.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 13th March.—The prices are going downward, market being dull.
Sheklong, No. 1, White.....\$8.45 to \$8.50 per c.
Do. " 2, White.....7.60 to 7.65 "
Sheklong, No. 1, Brown.....6.25 to 6.30 "
Do. " 2, Brown.....6.05 to 6.10 "
Swatow, No. 1, White.....8.35 to 8.4 "
Do. No. 1, White.....7.55 to 7.60 "
Do. " 1, Brown.....5.90 to 5.95 "
Do. " 2, Brown.....5.75 to 5.80 "
Fookchow Sugar Candy.....12.85 to 12.90 "
Sheklong ".....10.75 to 10.80 "

RICE.

HONGKONG, 13th March.—The prices are slightly declining, no demands having come forward.
Saigon, Ordinary.....\$3.80 to 3.85
" Round, Good quality.....5.60 to 5.65
" Long.....5.75 to 5.80
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2.....4.20 to 4.25
" Garden, " No. 1.....4.70 to 4.75
" White,.....5.80 to 5.85
" Fine Cargo.....6.05 to 6.10

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 13th March.—Moderate sales at previous quotations in superior quality. Stock, about 3,000 bales.
Bombay.....23.00 to 24.00 picul
Bengal (New), Rangoo } 24.00 to 26.50 "
and Dacca....."
Shanghai and Japanese, 27.00 to 28.00 "
Tungchow and Ningpo, 27.00 to 28.00 "
Sale:—450 bales.

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 13th March:—A good demand has continued throughout the past fortnight and settlements aggregating close upon 14,000 bales are reported, more than half the business being effected in No. 10s. Spot stocks of desirable spinnings are now practically all sold and the attention of dealers has been turned to neighbouring markets, as well as Bombay, for further supplies, and heavy contracts have again been entered into. Values show a further appreciation of 50 cents to \$2 per bale, and the aspect of the market at the close points to the maintenance of the advance. Best 16s. are being enquired for, and desirable chops would fetch an advance on quotations, but shortness of supplies is affecting business. The off-takes during the interval have nearly kept pace with receipts, and our estimate of stocks shows a very slight increase. Market closes steady.
Local manufacture.—Have participated in the general improvement, and sales of 700 bales No. 10s., at \$103 to \$104, all forward delivery, have transpired.

Japanese Yarn:—Continue strong, and market bare of stock. Sales of about 200 bales No. 20s., at from \$132 are reported. Delivery six to eight weeks.

Raw Cotton:—Indian descriptions continue very quiet; there has been no demand from the country, exporters to Japan are keeping entirely aloof, and our local mill is not in evidence. Recent arrivals are going into godown and stocks are accumulating and is now estimated at 4,500 bales, mostly Bengal kinds. At the close a small parcel of Superfine Bengal is reported sold at \$24. China cotton is in very little request and only a small sale of about 50 bales at \$28, is reported. Stocks 500 bales. Quotations are Indian \$22 to \$26, and China \$26 to \$28. Exchange on India shows a small advance and closes to-day at Rs. 118 for T T and Rs. 118 for Post. On Shanghai 73 1/2, and Yokohama 77 1/2.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 28th ultimo, viz:—
Indian:—Total sales 11,273 bales, comprising 100 bales of No. 6s., 4,170 bales of No. 10s., 900 bales of No. 12s., 2,000 bales of No. 16s., and 4,103 bales of No. 20s., prices showing an advance of half to one Tael and market closing very firm. Estimated unsold stock about 35,000 bales.

Japanese:—Sales reported are 1,000 bales, No. 16s. at Tls. 9 1/2 to 96, and No. 20s. at Tls. 95 to 98, market closing strong.

Local:—Total sales about 4,000 bales on the basis of Tls. 84 for No. 10s., Tls. 87 for No. 12s., Tls. 88 1/2 to 10 for No. 14s., and Tls. 91 1/2 to 92 for No. 16s., prices showing an advance of one to two Taels and market closing firm.

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, March 13th, 1903.—The market has ruled active since date of our last and a fair general business has been transacted chiefly at advanced rates. At time of closing, stocks appear to rule a trifle easier.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai sales are reported at \$690 and \$692 1/2 cash, market closing with further buyers at the former rate. Nationals remain unchanged and without business at quotation.

MARINE INSURANCE.—Unions have further advanced to \$530 after small sales at \$525. China Traders continue in request at \$59 without bringing further shares on the market. Cantons have changed hands at \$160 and close firmer at \$162 1/2. Yangtzes after sales at \$195 and \$197 1/2 close steady at \$200.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs remain on offer at \$3 7 1/2, whilst buyers refuse to pay over \$305. Chinas have changed hands at \$82 and close with sell at that rate.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have ruled steady with small sales at \$36 and reported transactions at \$36 1/2, market closing with sellers at the former and buyers at the latter rate. Douglases have been enquired for at \$42 1/2 without leading to business. Indos continue erratic with sales from \$103 to \$110 for cash and from \$110 to \$112 for June. Star Ferries have changed hands in small lots at quotations.

REFINERIES.—Fair sales of China Sugars have taken place at from \$102 to \$112 for the settlement, and at rates somewhat under the equivalents forward, at time of closing a few shares are probably obtainable at \$110 cash, but market remains fairly steady. Luzons unchanged.

MINING.—Punjams have declined to \$2 1/2 after sales at \$3. Shares, however, are in demand at the lower rate. Raubs have found buyers and close steady at \$7. Nothing further to report under this heading.

DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been the medium of a fair investing business at \$204, \$205 and \$206 for cash, and at about equivalent rates for early dates forward, the market closes steady at \$205 1/2. Kowloon Wharves after sales at \$96 and \$95 cum dividend close with sellers at \$92 1/2 ex dividend. Fernhams have advanced to Tls. 190.

LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands continue quiet at \$17 1/2 with cash sales and at about equivalent rates forward. Hotels continue at \$143 with small sales and buyers. West Points remain firm with no sales to report. Oriente Hotels have been placed at \$27 1/2 and close in demand.

COTTON MILLS.—No change or business to report under this heading.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have found buyers at \$22 1/2, \$23 and \$24 closing with sellers at \$23. Watsons, Electrics, Water-boats, China Providents and Campbell, Moores have all changed hands at quotations in small lots.

MEMOS.—Luzon Sugar Refinery Co., ordinary yearly meeting on 17th instant. China Sugar Refinery, ordinary yearly meeting on 17th instant. Green Island Cement Co., ordinary yearly meeting 21st March; transfer books close from 17th to 21st inst. Humphreys Estate: an extraordinary general meeting on 26th March. China Borneo Co., Ltd. shareholders are requested to send their scrips to the Company's office for exchange.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	\$690, buyers
Natl. Bank of China		L'don, £62. 10.
A. Shares	28	\$22 1/2, buyers
B. Shares	28	\$22 1/2, buyers
Foun. Shares	21	\$10, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	21	\$11, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$40, sales & buyers
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$12	\$7.
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$10.
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9.10, buyers
China Sugar	\$100	\$110, sellers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited	\$500	\$350.
Philippine Tobacco Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$20, sales & buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 37.
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 38.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 40.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 160.
Hongkong	\$100	\$10 1/2, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$11, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$40 1/2, ex div.
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$22 1/2, buyers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$40, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$5	\$6.8 1/2, sales
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$327.
Hk. Steam Water boat Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$11 1/2, sales
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$143, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$228.
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$92 1/2, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$110, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$20 1/2, sellers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$162 1/2, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$81, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$59, sales & buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$3 1/2, buyers
North China	\$25	Tls. 200, buyers
Straits	\$20	\$1, nominal
Union	\$100	\$530, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$13 1/2, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$176, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$11 1/2, sales & sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$33, buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$53, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$12 1/2, sellers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$15.
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$6.0, sellers
Jebebu	\$5	\$1, sellers
Punjom	\$10 1/2	\$24, buyers
Do. Preference	\$1	60 cents, buyers
Raubs	18	\$7 1/2, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6 1/2	\$384.
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$27 1/2, sales & buyers
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$10, buyers
Robinson Co. Piano, Ltd.	\$50	\$50, nominal
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$27, sales
Douglas Steamship	\$25	nominal
H. Canton and M.	\$50	\$42 1/2, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	\$15	\$36 1/2, sellers
Shell Transport and Trading Co., Ltd.	\$210	\$108, sellers
Star Ferry	21	\$21.10s., sellers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$10	\$28, buyers
United Asbestos	\$5	\$14.60, buyers
Do	\$4	nominal.
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$8 1/2, sellers
Watkins Ltd.	\$10	\$8 1/2, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$14, sales

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 5th March (from Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report). During the last eight days our market has been active, particularly in Indo-Chinas and Maatschappij &c, in Langkats, while in Farnhams the business done has been very limited. Langkats have continued to rise steadily till yesterday, when there was a marked weakness in these. MARINE INSURANCE.—North Chinas are still enquired for, and higher rates on a firm offer of shares, than Tls. 190 might be obtained. Yangtsze s are enquired for at Tls. 135. SHIPPING.—Indo-Chinas. A very large business has been done in this stock at advancing rates till yesterday when the market receded. The market opened on the 25th ult. with sales at Tls. 73 for cash, 74 for May, and 74 1/2 June. On the 26th at 72 1/2 cash, 74 March, 74 1/2 May and 74 1/2 June. On the 27th at 74 cash, 75 April, and 70 1/2 June. On the 28th at 75 cash and 78 June. On the 2nd inst. shares further advanced to 78, 78 1/2, 81 and 81 1/2 for cash, with sellers for March at 81, and for May at 83 and for June at 82 1/2. On the 3rd cash shares were dealt in at 82 1/2 and 83 with sales for March and April at 83 and 84, and May at 84 and June 84 1/2. On the 4th cash business was done at Tls. 80, the market weakening. To-day a number of transactions have taken place for cash at 78 1/2 with shares all round weak for forward delivery. Shell Transport and Trading Co. Shares have changed hands at £1. 10s. locally and are obtainable at this rate. Shanghai Tug Boats have found buyers at Tls. 310, and shares are enquired for at this rate. Cargo Boats are enquired for at Tls. 157 1/2. Docks.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co., Ltd.—There have been a number of transactions in this stock, but the volume of business has been limited. The market opened on the 25th ult. with sales at Tls. 195/187 1/2. On the 26th at 185. On the 28th shares were placed at 192 1/2, 195 June. On the 2nd inst. cash shares changed hands at 185 with sales for July 195. On the 3rd cash business was done at 185/196, 192 1/2 June. On the 4th business was done at 186 1/2 cash and 195 June. To-day cash shares have changed hands at 188. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves. A limited business has been done in these for cash at Tls. 322 1/2 and 320, shares are obtainable at the latter rate. SUGAR COMPANIES.—In Peraks there is no business reported. MINING.—No business is reported in stocks under this heading. LANDS.—Shanghai Lands steady at Tls. 115. Weihaiwei Lands have changed hands at Tls. 17 1/2. INDUSTRIAL.—In cotton stocks a small business is reported in Ewos at Tls. 37 and Internationals at 38, and in Laou-Kung-Mows at Tl. 40, shares are wanted in the latter at this rate. Shanghai Gas shares have changed hands at Tls. 115. Shanghai Icees are steadily enquired for at Tls. 17 1/2 to 18. Maatschappij, &c. in Langkat. A very large business has been done in these shares. The market opened on the 25th ult. with cash sales at Tls. 247 1/2 and 250, with sales for March at 252 1/2, for April 252 1/2, 255, 257 1/2, 265 for June. On the 26th cash shares were done at 252 1/2, 255, 260 March and 260 April. On the 27th 252 1/2, 257 1/2, 260, 262 1/2, 267 1/2 and 270 cash, 270 272 1/2, 275 March, and 262 1/2 and 270 April, 282 1/2 June. On the 28th cash sales at 270 and 275 for March. On March 2nd cash at 275/280, 282 1/2, 285 March, 290 April. On the 3rd at 245 March, 287 1/2 and 290 April, and 295 June. On the 4th in the morning shares were done at Tls. 280, and before noon transactions were reported at Tls. 270 with sales for March at 270 and 275, for May at 287 1/2/290. To-day the market has improved with sales and buyers for cash at 280/282 1/2. Shanghai Sumatras. Sales have been effected at Tls. 52 1/2. Shanghai Waterworks. Buyers at Tls. 410. STORES AND HOTELS.—Moutries have changed hands at \$63 1/2. Weeks at \$24. Hotel des Colonies have been done at \$17 1/2. Astors at \$28 and \$30. MISCELLANEOUS.—China Providents are wanted at \$0. Shanghai Horse Bazaars have been dealt in at Tls. 150, 155 and 157 1/2. Shanghai Telephones have changed hands at Tls. 63. DEBENTURE STOCKS.—All steady at quotati na.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 13th March.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer 1/7
Bank Bills, on demand 1/7 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight 1/7 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 1/7 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight 1/7 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 1/7 1/2

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand 199 1/2
Credits, 4 months' sight 203 1/2

ON GERMANY.—

On demand 162 1/2

ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand 38 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight 39 1/2

ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer 118

Bank, on demand 118 1/2

ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer 118

Bank, on demand 118 1/2

ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight 73 1/2

Private, 30 days' sight 74 1/2

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand 77 1/2

ON MANILA.—

On demand par

ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand nominal

ON BATAVIA.—On demand 95 1/2

ON HAIPHONG.—On demand 3 p.c. pm.

ON SAIGON.—On demand 2 1/2 p.c. pm.

ON BANGKOK.—On demand 69

SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate \$12.43

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael 66.10

BAR SILVER, per oz. 22 1/2

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 13th March.—There is a fair demand for tonnage, and rates all round have improved. From Saigon to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul last; but at the close the market is somewhat weaker; to 1 port Philippines, 35 cents per picul last and more tonnage wanted. From Newchwang to Canton, several boats have been closed at 32 1/2 cents per picul. Wuhu to Canton, 32 candareens per picul last. Coal freights are firm. From Moji to Hongkong, \$2.20; to Singapore \$2.50 per ton. Time charters. A large business has been done at rates showing an improvement on previous charters. The following are the settlements:—

Holliswood—American barque, 1,084 tons, hence to Callao, £1,750, lump sum.

Sierstad—Norwegian steamer, 617 tons, Wuhu to Canton, 32 candareens per picul.

Prosper—Norwegian steamer, 788 tons, Wuhu and or Chinkiang to Canton, 20 1/2 cents per picul.

Marie Rickmers—German steamer, 1,020 tons, Wuhu to Canton, 37 1/2 candareens per picul.

Taiyu—German steamer, 1,065 tons, Wuhu to Canton, \$9,540 in full.

Fausang—British steamer, 1,410 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 32 1/2 cents per picul.

Tientsin—British steamer, 1,227 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 32 1/2 cents per picul.

Argo—Norwegian steamer, 879 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 32 1/2 cents per picul.

Karin—Swedish steamer, 698 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 32 1/2 cents per picul.

Rugby—British steamer, Moji or Kuchinotzu to Singapore, \$2.50 and Penang, \$3.00 per ton.

Clitus—British steamer, 1,588 tons, Singapore, \$2.50 per ton.

Arnold Luyken—German steamer, 1,095 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul.

Kweiyang—British steamer, 1,062 tons, Moji to Swatow, \$2.50 per ton option Hongkong, \$2.20.

Heathdene—British steamer, 2,277 tons, Kuchinotzu or Kar tzu to Manila, \$3.25 option Hongkong, \$2.20 per ton.

Frithjof—Norwegian steamer, 801 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 18 cents per picul (recharter).

Frigga—Norwegian steamer, 646 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 18 1/2 cents per picul.

Quarta—German steamer, 1,146 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 17 1/2 cents per picul.

Airtie—British steamer, 1,192 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 18 1/2 cents per picul.

Emma Luyken—German steamer, 1,109 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 18 1/2 cents per picul.

Wineland—Danish steamer, 1,668 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 19 cents per picul.

Brunhilde—German steamer, 872 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 19 cents per picul.

Talce—German steamer, 959 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul.

Elg—Norwegian steamer, 708 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 33 cents per picul.

Tritos—German steamer, 1,033 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 34 cents per picul.

Deuteros—German steamer, 1,001 tons, Saigon to 1 1/2 port Philippines, 34 cents and 36 cents per picul.

Elg—Norwegian steamer, 708 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 35 cents per picul.

Deuteros—German steamer, 1,001 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 35 cents per picul.

Quangnam—French steamer, Saigon to one port Philippines, 35 cents per picul.

Quangnam—French steamer, Saigon to one port Philippines, 35 cents per picul.

Quangnam—French steamer, Saigon to one port Philippines, 35 cents per picul.

Sierstad—Norwegian steamer, 617 tons, monthly, 3 months, \$4,900 per month.

Argo—Norwegian steamer, 879 tons, monthly, 4 1/2 months, at \$5,500 per month.

Brunhilde—German steamer, 872 tons, monthly, 6 months, \$5,500 option 6 months, \$6,000 per month.

Bygdo—Norwegian steamer, 771 tons, monthly, 4 1/2 months, \$5,500 per month.

Decima—German steamer, 794 tons, monthly, 9 months, \$5,750 per month.

Nanyang—German steamer, 1,060 tons, monthly, 2 1/2 months, at \$5,750 per month.

Deuteros—German steamer, 1,001 tons, monthly, 9 months, at \$5,900 per month.

Tritos—German steamer, 1,033 tons, monthly, 9 months, at \$5,900 per month.

Thea—German steamer, 934 tons, monthly, 9 months, at \$5,900 per month.

Knivsberg—German steamer, 446 tons, monthly, 13 months, at \$6,000 per month.

Vorwarts—German steamer, 643 tons, monthly, 12 months, at \$6,000 per month.

Mathilde—German steamer, 678 tons, monthly, 6 months, \$6,000 per month.

China—German steamer, 1,093 tons, monthly, 6 1/2 months, \$6,300 per month.

Petrarch—German steamer, 1,252 tons, monthly, 1 to 2 months, \$6,500 per month.

Emma Luyken—German steamer, 1,109 tons, monthly, 6 months, at \$6,500 per month.

Arnold Luyken—German steamer, 1,095 tons, monthly, 6 1/2 months, at \$6,500 per month.

Lisa—Swedish steamer, 998 tons, monthly 12 months, \$7,000 per month.

Marie Jensen—German steamer, 1,807 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$8,250 per month.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

March—

ARRIVALS.

8, Annam, French str., from Shanghai.
8, Michael Jensen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
8, Taifu, German str., from Chinkiang.
8, Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.
9, Apenrade, German str., from Pakhoi.
9, Empire, British str., from Kobe.
9, Germania, German str., from Chinkiang.
9, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
9, Kwangse, Brit. str., from Chingwangtau.
9, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
9, Madeleine Rickmers, Ger. str., from B'kok.
9, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
9, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
9, Sullberg, German str., from Iloilo.
9, Themis, Norwegian str., from Wuhu.
9, Thea, German str., from Tsing'au.
9, Tsintau, German str., from Bangkok.
10, Arratoon Apear, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
10, Daiya Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
10, Hopsang, British str., from Hongay.
10, Konigsberg, German str., from Hamburg.
10, Kwongsang, British str., from Canton.
10, Chales, British str., from Swatow.
10, Tremont, American str., from Victoria.
10, Victoria, American str., from Tacoma.
11, Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Wuhu.
11, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
11, Hachi Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
11, Korea, Russian str., from Shanghai.
11, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
11, Phra Chom Klao, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
11, Pingsuey, British str., from Liverpool.
12, Hangsang, British str., from Shanghai.
12, Kowloon, German str., from Canton.
12, Kwangtab, Chinese str., from Canton.
12, Laisang, British str., from Calcutta.
12, Lennox, British str., from Moji.
12, Nanshan, U.S. transport, from Manila.
12, Sydney, French str., from Marseilles.
12, Telemachus, British str., from Saigon.
12, Tritos, German str., from Chinkiang.
12, Tritos, German str., from Chinkiang.
13, China, Amr. str., from San Francisco.
13, Chusan, British str., from Bombay.
13, Kentucky, U.S. battleship, from Singapore.
13, Valetta, British str., from Shanghai.
13, Wakamatsu Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.

March—

DEPARTURES.

9, Athenian, British str., from Vancouver.
9, Diomet, British str., from Shanghai.
8, Deuteros, German str., for Canton.
8, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
9, Amphitrite, British cruiser, for practice.
9, Brunhilde, German str., for Saigon.
9, Fukin Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
9, Lina, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
9, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.

8. *Pique*, British cruiser, for practice.
 9. *Rambler*, British sur.-ves., for practice.
 9. *Taifu*, German str., for Canton.
 9. *Taisang*, British str., for Canton.
 10. *Aki Maru*, Japanese str., for Seattle.
 10. *Anamba*, Danish str., for Wuhu.
 10. *Annam*, French str., for Europe.
 10. *Bencleuch*, British str., for Bussein.
 10. *Diomed*, British str., for London.
 10. *Haitan*, British str., for Coast Ports.
 10. *Java*, British str., for Shanghai.
 10. *Kweiyang*, British str., for Kobe.
 10. *Ragnar*, Norwegian str., for Hengay.
 10. *Selun*, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 10. *Sishan*, British str., for Saigon.
 10. *Suisang*, British str., for Calcutta.
 10. *Themis*, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 10. *Yuensang*, British str., for Manila.
 11. *Anping Maru*, Jap. str., for Coast Ports.
 11. *Apenrade*, German str., for Hoihow.
 11. *Changsha*, British str., for Australia.
 11. *Chunsang*, British str., for Shanghai.
 11. *Daphne*, German str., for Swatow.
 11. *Eclipse*, British gunboat, for practice.
 11. *Empire*, British str., for Australia.
 11. *Empress of Japan*, Brit. str., for Vancouver.
 11. *Germania*, German str., for Canton.
 11. *Karin*, Swedish str., for Chefoo.
 11. *Kwongsang*, British str., for Shanghai.
 11. *Leosok*, German str., for Bangkok.
 11. *Michael Jensen*, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
 11. *Shantung*, German str., for Foochow.
 11. *Sungkiang*, British str., for Manila.
 11. *Taichow*, German str., for Bangkok.
 11. *Talbot*, British cruiser, for practice.
 11. *Talbot*, British str., for Swatow.
 11. *Thea*, German str., for Canton.
 12. *Argonaut*, British cruiser, for practice.
 12. *Bygdo*, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 12. *Foomoon*, German str., for Shanghai.
 12. *Hangsang*, British str., for Canton.
 12. *Hitachi Maru*, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 12. *Houkang*, French str., for Hoihow.
 12. *Ischia*, Italian str., for Bombay.
 12. *Korea*, Russian str., for Havre.
 12. *Kwanglee*, Chinese str., for Canton.
 12. *Petchaburi*, German str., for Bangkok.
 12. *Pronto*, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.
 12. *Sydney*, French str., for Shanghai.
 13. *Ibadan*, British str., for Manila.
 13. *Konigsberg*, German str., for Yokohama.
 13. *Kowloon*, German str., for Chinkiang.
 13. *Kwangse*, British str., for Foochow.
 13. *Kyoto Maru*, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 13. *Loosang*, British str., for Manila.
 13. *Machew*, German str., for Bangkok.
 13. *Monterey*, U.S. monitor, for Canton.
 13. *Pingsuey*, British str., for Shanghai.
 13. *Tremont*, American str., for Manila.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Choyssang*, from Shanghai, &c., Mr. Waker.
 Per *Oceana*, from Sydney, Messrs. V. Bunsen, Hutter, Richter and Schmidt.
 Per *Changsha*, from Yokohama, &c., Mr. Whipkey and Miss F. Herick.
 Per *Hongkong Maru*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. H. H. and Mrs. White, Mrs. H. H. and Miss Rice, Mrs. Kennan, Mrs. K. Raymond, Mrs. Ollie Blaser, Mrs. S. D. Malpass, Miss E. Drake, Messrs. J. M. Loefer, W. C. Ford, W. J. Kames, E. T. Baxter, Y. S. Sloman, Count d'Obidos and H. J. Menny.
 Per *Ibadan*, from Manila, Mrs. Dickinson and Mr. A. R. Armstrong.
 Per *Sungkiang*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. F. Domingo and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair, Mrs. G. Miller, Mrs. Reynell, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Connell, Misses J. McCarthy, N. McGary and E. F. Edward, Messrs. H. C. Willard, G. N. Palmer, H. H. Bordner, A. B.umann, H. A. King, W. Jettat, A. B. Edwards, F. Tompkins, J. D. M. Cameron, J. B. Roberson, A. M. Fisher, T. Thompson, G. Edwards, P. L. Floyd, W. B. Gompf and W. M. Taylor.
 Per *Taisang*, from Shanghai, Mrs. Villard and 2 children and Mr. Kingley.
 Per *Haitan*, from Amoy, Messrs. A. Cherney and H. del Castillo.
 Per *Rubi*, from Manila, Mrs. Martinez and son, Mrs. L. Marano, Mrs. Sanderman, Messrs. Gibbs, Pollock, P. C. Giles, Ponce and E. Zarate.
 Per *Java*, for Hongkong, from London, Mrs. A. R. Allen, Hon. Senator Fulford and Misses Fulford (2), Capt. F. J. Rasford, Lieut. Gilson, J. H. W. Becke and Charrington, Midshipmen

Haddon and Kenworthy and Mr. T. Wethers; from Plymouth, Messrs. M. C. Langford, May, Shears and Rendle; from Marseilles, Miss Appeldorn and Mr. Lahl; from Port Said, Lieut. Rhodes; for Manila, from London, Mr. L. W. Bryce; for Shanghai, from London, Mr. J. C. Hill.

Per *Athenian*, from Vancouver, &c., Messrs. Dwyer, Waters, Hurm and Silver.

Per *Empire*, from Kobe, Dr. and Mrs. Duncan, Mrs. B. Mead, Miss Church, Mr. Dicken and Lieut. Hill.

Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Misses E. A. Guana de la Cruz, Andrea Garcia and N. Elab, Dr. Landor, Messrs. J. M. Musson, H. L. Hankenson, Thomas Magrath, F. G. Kertson, Yaborda de Azvedo, Luis Gamboa, Vicente Monge, D. E. Blossom, R. C. Jacobs, Alberto C. Barroso and A. C. Araday.

Per *Annam*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Richarme; from Kobe, Mr. D. Scollis; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Bird, Messrs. Arthur Reeve, Kavarand, J. Kaspada, B. Bhesanid, T. Kavarand, A. I. artoor, D. Posteral, E. Deltmann, M. Haimonitch, J. Deos, Henry Hard, V. Kumoneski, Casimir Senereni, D. Georgio Francesco, Denys and Mecher; for Port Said, from Shanghai, Mr. Saffra; for Marseilles, from Kobe, Rev. Leber; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Callien and two children, Messrs. Dufay, Mestre, Stutz, Niels Moller and H. Bouchoux.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, from Manila, Dr. and Mrs. Schippman, Misses Halbut and Vanter, Messrs. P. E. Rivera, J. Erlanger, A. Johnston, A. Grossman, E. J. Simoui, A. T. Hall, Mons. Bordar, J. A. Fairchild, W. E. Taylor, Mons. Toulet, E. A. Luthi, Dou P. Stalde, E. L. Heath, Mons. Saillant and B. Muraoka.

Per *Thales*, from Swatow, Messrs. F. Hyde and T. Thornton.

Per *Airatoon Apear*, from Calcutta, &c., Mr. and Miss Baxendale, Misses Marmion and Worts, Messrs. Howard, Brining, Black and Peters.

Per *Korea*, from Shanghai, Messrs. Frigast, Erick Frigast and Antipass.

Per *Hitachi Maru*, from London, &c., for Hongkong, Mrs. Ellis, Mrs. E. R. Cox, Miss Cox, Mrs. J. T. Davis, Mrs. M. Murphy, Miss Murphy, Mrs. H. S. Kent, Misses Doshter, N. Course and Hanson, Rev. H. F. Wallace, Messrs. A. Ellis, N. Nicholson, E. Wilson, E. Shaw, R. W. Cox, J. T. Davies, Blown and W. Jenkins; for Shanghai, Miss M. Spencer, Messrs. H. Smith and F. Boyd; for Kobe, Messrs. T. Kozaki and H. Lewis; for Yokohama, Mrs. Cornish, Mrs. Harniman, Mrs. and Miss Takahashi, Miss Percival, Drs. V. Cornish and J. Takahashi, Messrs. E. Harniman, N. S. Percival, G. Dean, H. Hawkes, T. Ikuta and N. Kajiwara.

Per *Sydney*, from Marseilles, &c., Messrs. E. Chambers, Herzog, H. Lebrun, R. P. Gaudon, Bonnet, Van den Berg, Tromp and Fisher.

DEPARTED.

Per *Zafiro*, for Manila, Miss Liua White, Messrs. P. Ventura and Grolfens.

Per *Gaelic*, for Shanghai, Mrs. Sykes, Mrs. De Witt, Mr. and Mrs. Trautman, Dr. and Mrs. and the Misses Seeley, Mrs. McClean, Messrs. A. P. Stokes, M. J. Davet, Valenza, Macke and Kehler; for Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Noyes, Mrs. W. W. Campbell, Messrs. James Greene and F. H. Engleton; for Yokohama, Dr. and Mrs. R. K. Mc Ianaban, Mrs. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. B. Howard; for San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Johnson, Mrs. L. Levy and infant, Mrs. and Miss Andrews, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Morris, Mrs. E. C. Eckley, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Paley, Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Slater, Dr. and Mrs. Milan Soule, Mrs. Cochran and child, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Underwood, Misses H. M. and E. G. Wardell, M. B. Hill and H. McGaughey, Mr. and Miss Collier, Comdr. J. A. Norris, Capt. W. Johnson, Messrs. D. Sampson, P. C. McFarlane, Geo. Malcolm, Geo. Cunningham, W. Smithett, R. N. Hatrick and G. F. Southard.

Per *Rohilla Maru*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Emerson, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Cook and child, Mrs. T. Nagahama, Mrs. F. L. Johnstone, Mrs. J. Wright and child, Misses Lilly Smith, A. Blanc and D. Feller, Lieut. Tilford, Messrs. S. M. Berger, R. H. Newman, V. Giot, G. J. J. ellemans, W. C. Ford, Chuzi Baba, H. H. Todd, John H. Bacon, H. J. Meany, T. Tanaka and Masahi Uketa.

Per *Aki Maru*, for Seattle, &c., Rev. and Mrs. A. A. McLeod, Mrs. Twigg, Mrs. Lassetter, Mrs. Furnida, Mrs. Antill, Capt. H. Farmer, Messrs. F. N. Dreeing, P. Friedrichsen, F. Gordon, Lassetter, K. Takahashi, Y. Yoshizawa and Furnida.

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